Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 262 | MONDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

POLL RESULTS

Have you attended or do you plan to attend any of the candidate forums and debates being held in the runup to the Nov. 7 elections?

Yes-**34**

No-**80**

Sunday, November 01, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS **PHASE 6**

As of October30, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Hard Rock

Hard Rock Café Saipan introduces its new management team and launches its revamped menu.

BUSINESS...Page 15

Fourth Typhoon

A typhoon batters Manila and surrounding provinces, killing at least 14 people.

ASIA...Page 17

NMI remembers the dead. **PAGE 2**

MPLT OKs terms of $1M Tinian loan request. **PAGE 3**

NMI FILES SUPPLEMENTAL ARGUMENTS

'DHS rules will wipe out two-thirds of the alien workforce'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government has filed a supplemental memorandum supporting its motion for a preliminary injunction against federalization by citing the Department of Homeland Security's publication of its interim final rule.

Fitial

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday the "interim final rule" was a violation of the Administrative Procedure Act, so he asked his

See DHS on Page 4

Hundreds attend federalization forum

Re-entry to NMI tops concerns of alien workers

David G. Gulick, right, district director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, answers questions from the audience during a public forum on USCIS' interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program at the American Memorial Park on Friday night. Federalization of CNMI immigration starts on Nov. 28 under a law that also gave the Commonwealth its first non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hundreds of alien workers of different nationalities showed up at a public forum on the Department of Homeland Security's interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program, held Friday night at the American Memorial Park.

See HUNDREDS on Page 4

Report: 51 pct. price hike for water mulled

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The enforcement of a 51 percent across-the-board hike in water revenues is necessary to enable the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to comply with a court order that requires the agency to meet

See REPORT on Page 4

Six named 2009 Humanities awardees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six individuals were named to the prestigious 2009 Governor's Humanities Awards for their outstanding contributions in the promotion of

See SIX on Page 4

Winners and representatives of the 2009 Governor's Humanities Awards pose with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other officials at the awarding ceremony Friday night at the Aqua Resort Club in Achugao. From left, awardee Dr. Elizabeth D. Rechebei for preserving traditional cultural practices; Blossom Inos and Cristobal Inos, daughter and husband, respectively, of Dr. Rita Inos who was bestowed the Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities award; awardees Manuel Borja and Jose S. Roppul for research and publication in the humanities; outstanding humanities teacher Harold H. Easton of Marianas High School; Fitial; Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos; and press secretary Charles Reyes, who also chairs the NMI Council for the Humanities.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Local

NMI remembers the dead

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hundreds of community members trooped to various cemeteries on island as early as Saturday to remember their loved ones in the annual tradition of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. They lit candles, offered flowers, and spent some time at the cemeteries in prayers and impromptu family reunions.

For 64-year-old Esther Babauta, the practice has been a tradition for the family, which has made every effort to visit their deceased loved ones not only during Nov. 1 and 2 but on special occasions like death anniversaries and birthdays.

Yesterday, bunches of flowers were seen spread out among the tombs of six family members: her mother, brother, two aunties, and grandparents. All of them are buried in Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa.

Today, Babauta's family and relatives will return to the cemetery to continue offering prayers for the dead.

"I feel like a little relieved whenever I visit them, especially in times of problems. That's the reason why I keep coming back here and pray for them. We want to tell them that we always remember them," she said, even during economic hardships. Babauta said she used to spend $200 to $300 on flowers at this time of the year but this year, she spent only $60.

Seen offering baskets of flowers at the Mount Carmel cemetery yesterday was 52-year-old Sol San Nicolas and her two daughters. San Nicolas' 17-year-old daughter Eden Joyce died in an accident in Guam in 2005.

Since Saturday, she made sure that her daughter's tomb was perfectly painted and cleaned before the Nov. 1 and 2 occasion.

She admitted that way before the All Saints' and All Souls' Day celebrations, the family had already prepared the flowers to be offered to her daughter.

"We made sure that we can offer the same best flowers for our daughter," she said.

Sheena Sablan, 26, was also seen braving the heat—sitting for hours beside the tomb of her beloved father, who died of cancer.

She said she and her kids are the only ones expected to offer prayers and flowers this year for their beloved father, Mametto Maratita, because other family members are already living in the U.S. mainland.

"…But they always pay a visit every time they come here," she said.

Other families, of various ethnicities, were also seen gathering around their dead yesterday, playing their favorite music while other members shared stories, food, and toys for their kids.

A rosary was conducted at noon at the Mount Carmel cemetery while a Mass was celebrated at 4:30pm yesterday.

Hundreds of community members were also expected yesterday at the two other cemeteries in Tanapag and Capital Hill.

Politicians do favors for others.

Lawmakers work for all of us.

In these times of change, the CNMI needs lawmakers, not politicians.

VOTE for TINA SABLAN for Senate!

☑ #5 on the ballot

Paid for by Friends of Tina Sablan

MVA welcomes return of school groups

The Marianas Visitors Authority is hoping recent trips by large groups of students from Japan is marking the return of school groups as fears of H1N1 are allayed.

Last week, over 222 students and 18 teachers from Ueda Nishi High School in Nagano prefecture Ueda City, Japan visited the island of Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands. At the same time, 60 students from Iino High School in Mie Preceture, Suzuka, Japan were on island.

"We take this trip as a sign that schools in Japan and other destinations are regaining confidence in safe travel for their students," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "Especially now that the H1N1 vaccine is available, we are looking forward to the return of school trips to our islands for cultural exchange, religious ceremonies, and other activities."

Tenorio personally welcome the Ueda school group at Saipan World Resort. During their stay, the students visited island sites, enjoyed cultural exchange with students at Marianas High School, and participated in a memorial service for Japanese military personnel and civilians who died on the island during World War II. The trip was coordinated on island by PDI. Iino High students, whose trip was coordinated by Nippon Travel Agent, had cultural exchange with Mt. Carmel High School.

PDI was expecting another group of sixty students and five teachers from Iino High School on Oct. 27.

In September 2009, 3,359 (21 percent) of those who responded to the MVA's visitor survey were students. Of these, over 3,000 were from Japan. This figure includes both school trips and children traveling with families.

Earlier this year, the MVA formed the Destination Education Ad Hoc Committee to develop strategies to attract more student trips to the Northern Marianas. ***(MVA)***

Introducing the Newest, Most Affordable BlackBerry® smartphone.

Dedicated Media Buttons
Control music and multi-media at the push of a button.

BlackBerry® Curve™ 8520 smartphone
$270.00*

- *Wireless Email*
- *Browser*
- *2MP Camera*
- *Video Camera Capabilities*
- *Multimedia Player*
- *Wi-Fi*
- *Bluetooth*
- *Organizer*
- *256MB Flash Memory*

NEW Trackpad Navigation
The newest way to navigate through icons and menus.

Lightweight & Compact
A full QWERTY keyboard that fits in the palm of your hands.

BlackBerry Curve™

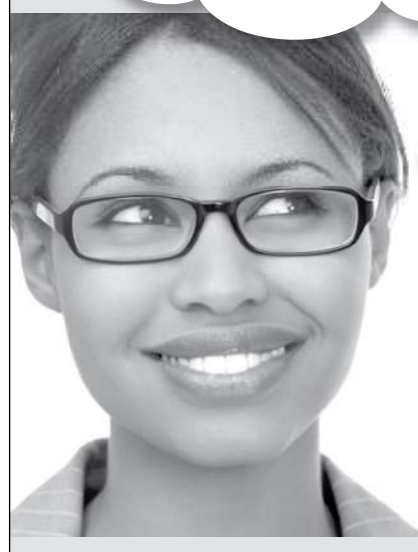
BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType®, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world.

*Some conditions apply. **INCLUDES FREE ONE (1) Month ACCESS & DATA.** New activation on 12 month agreement and BlackBerry ® data required. Offer valid on October 26, 2009 to November 21, 2009 or while supplies last.

NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC

483-CARE | **www.docomopacific.com** | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

I just got a great pair of glasses for just **$77.00!** at Marianas Eye Institute



Just $77.00 for a complete pair of glasses:
- Lens & Frames included
- One-year warranty
- Selected Brands
- Lightweight lenses
- $127.00 for Progressive "no-line" bifocals

Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome
235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

MPLT OKs terms of $1M Tinian loan request

But lawmaker says conditions 'too risky' for both sides

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Besides approving the immediate transfer of $4.1 million in interest income to the general fund, the Marianas Public Lands Trust also approved Friday the terms and conditions of the up to $1 million in loan request from the Tinian municipality.

Among those terms is an 11 percent monthly interest on the loan and for the Tinian Municipality to maintain a reserve account of $2.5 million.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), who was present at the MPLT board meeting, said the terms and conditions of the loan request "are extremely risky for both sides."

"It would be totally irresponsible and short sighted for the municipality to take such massive risks," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Vianney Hocog, one of the MPLT board trustees, acknowledged that there are those who have expressed concerns about the approval of Tinian's loan request but said that "MPLT is in the business of finances."

"Our role is to make money from what we have. We do understand that many are not happy with the proposition of Tinian but we have to think about responsibility to make money," he added.

Hocog added that although the issue has appeared to be "political," there's nothing that MPLT could do about it when the request came during an election year.

The approval of the terms and conditions came after the MPLT board held three executive sessions in the morning and afternoon.

In one of those executive sessions, the trustees met with Ray Cing, chief executive officer of Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas, and municipality legal counsel Ray Quichocho.

The Tinian Municipality, as well as the Tinian Legislative Delegation, however, is still waiting for a legal opinion on the loan request, including its constitutionality as it pertains to public indebtedness.

"MPLT acknowledged that if the loan is approved and it is later found to be unconstitutional, they might lose the ability to collect. It seems crazy to pursue this loan any further. What I am wondering is, why won't the municipality just pass a budget? And where is all their money going that they are now seeking to borrow for operations at such enormous risk?" asked Sablan.

But Rep. Edwin Aldan (Cov-Tinian), author of the Tinian local bill that was signed into law to pave the way for Tinian to borrow money from MPLT, said it does not make sense that MPLT lent money to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for its operations, including those used to pay for Aggreko, repair of the engines, and personnel costs.

"We're basically looking to the CUC loan from MPLT for Aggreko engines and staff," Aldan said in a phone interview.

Aldan said they expect the legal opinion from Atty. Lucy Blanco-Maratita anytime soon.

He added that Tinian municipal employees have long been waiting for their retroactive salary adjustment payments.

The Tinian municipality will use the up to $1 million loan from MPLT for the payment of municipal employees' retroactive salaries amounting to $520,913.84; another $201,729.96 to pay Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino for expenses related to the 60th anniversary commemoration for the Battle of Tinian in 2004; and $277,356.20 for future scholarships.

Sablan also earlier raised concern that Tinian's loan request from MPLT may have violated the CNMI Constitution's prohibition on public indebtedness and government borrowing and could trigger taxpayer lawsuits, while MPLT may have not honored its fiduciary responsibilities in reviewing and approving the loan request.

She said she is "extremely concerned" that the loan "may violate Article X of the CNMI Constitution, and specifically the prohibition in Section 3 on incurring public debt without two-thirds of the affirmative vote of the members in each house of the Legislature, and the prohibition in Section 4 on borrowing for government operations.

Conflict of interest?

MPLT held a special meeting on Saipan on Friday with four of five board trustees present.

Only chairman Phillip Mendiola-Long was not present, and Alvaro Santos served as pro-tem chair at the special meeting.

Mendiola-Long was the chairman of the Battle of Tinian 60th commemoration activities in 2004.

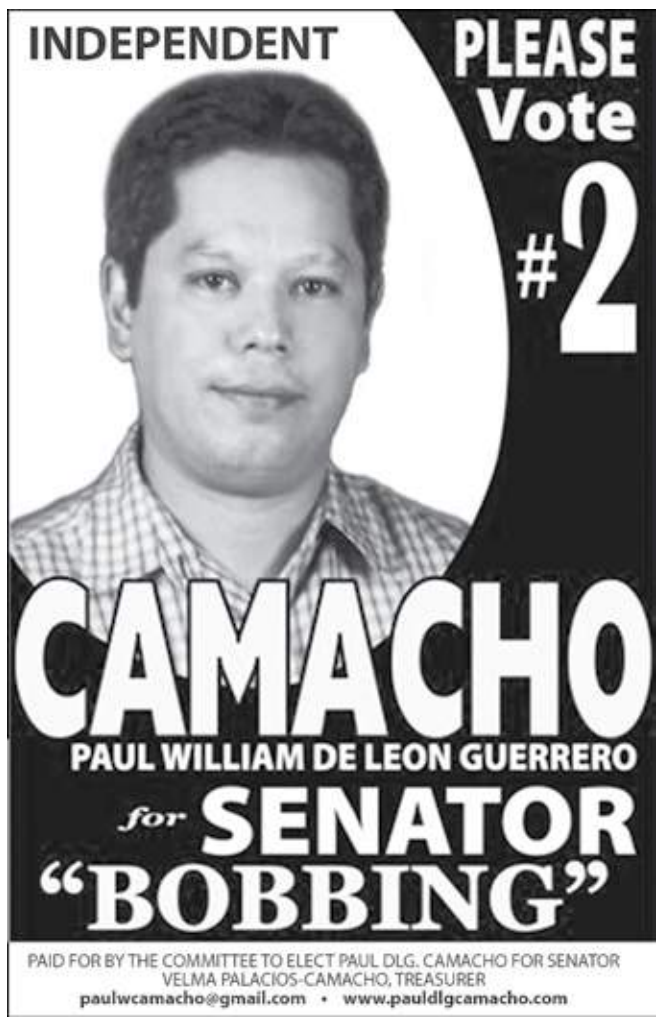
Using the money to be borrowed from MPLT, the Tinian municipality expects to pay Tinian Dynasty for expenses incurred related to the 2004 commemoration activities.

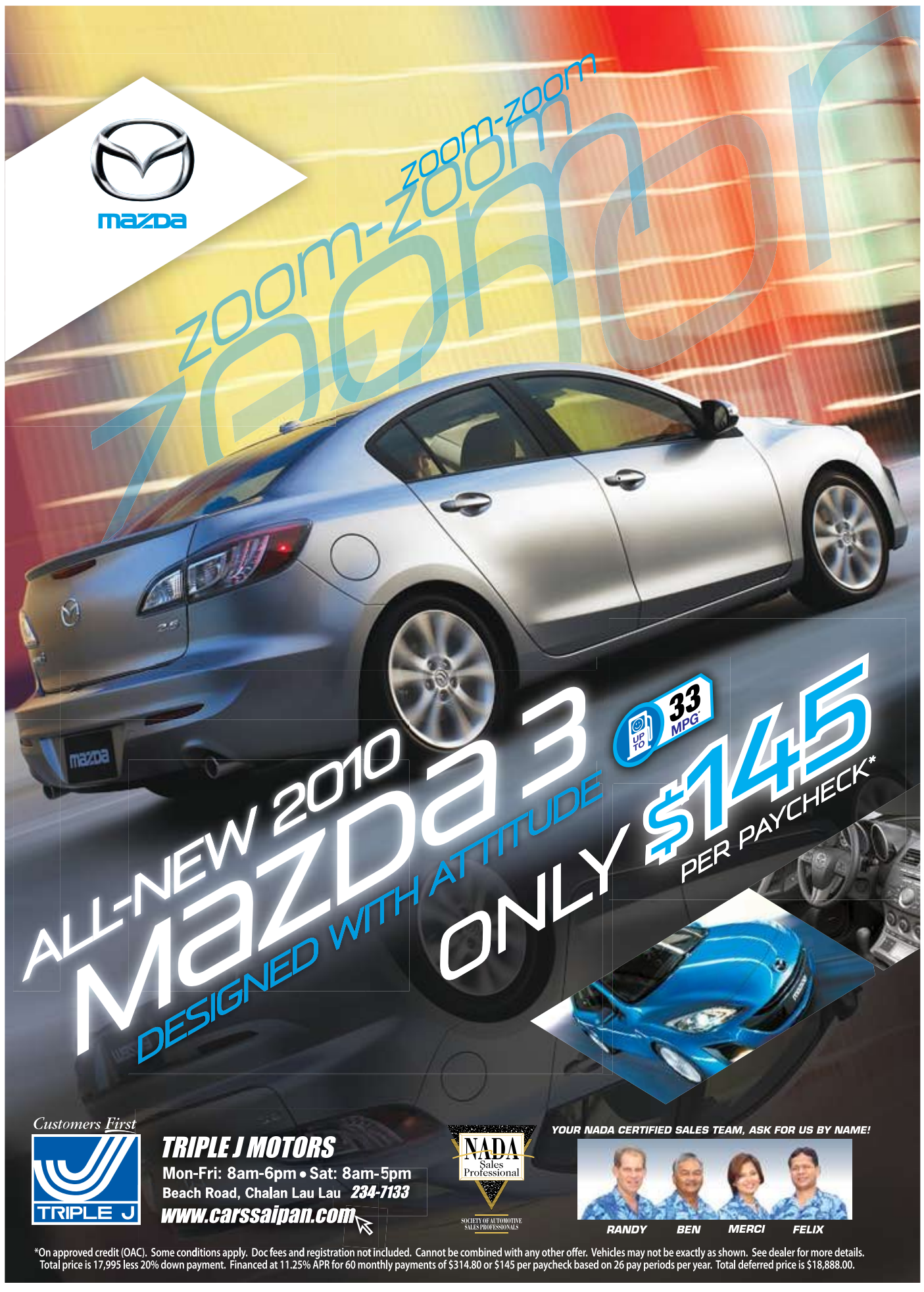
During its meeting on Friday, MPLT also approved the immediate transfer of $4.1 million in interest income to the general fund for appropriation in Fiscal Year 2009, which ended on Sept. 30.

While the $4.1 million was a resource listed for appropriation in Public Law 16-32 or the FY 2009 budget and House Concurrent Resolutions 16-2 and 16-3, MPLT made no transfer of funds before the end of FY 2009.

As early as June, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee already warned that the government is expected to have an additional $4.1 million deficit in FY 2009 if MPLT does not transfer to the general fund the resource listed as "recovered interest."

The Fitial administration drafted a bill for the transfer of the $4.1 million. Rep. Oscar M. Babauta (Cov-Saipan) introduced House Bill 16-280 on Sept. 22, but the House has yet to act on the bill almost a month after FY 2009 had ended.




mazda
zoom-zoom
ALL-NEW 2010
Mazda 3
DESIGNED WITH ATTITUDE
UP TO 33 MPG
ONLY $145
PER PAYCHECK*
Customers First
TRIPLE J
TRIPLE J MOTORS
Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau 234-7133
www.carssaipan.com
NADA Sales Professionals
SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE SALES PROFESSIONALS
YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM, ASK FOR US BY NAME!
RANDY BEN MERCI FELIX
*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details.
Total price is 17,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 11.25% APR for 60 monthly payments of $314.80 or $145 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $18,888.00.

SIX

From Page 1

literacy and cultural preservation.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and NMI Council for the Humanities board chair Charles Reyes Jr. conferred the recognition Friday on Dr. Elizabeth Rechebei and Dr. Sandra Chung, Manuel Borja and Jose Roppul, Harol Easton, and the late Dr. Rita H. Inos.

Every year, the NMI Council for the Humanities seeks the community's participation in the selection of outstanding awardees for various categories.

For preserving traditional cultural practices, Drs. Rechebei and Chung were commended for securing a three-year grant to study and strengthen the Chamorro language and for leading the efforts to revise and expand the existing Chamorro-English dictionary. The two also organized a conference attended by language experts who reviewed the Chamorro orthography and offered revisions to make it easier to use.

The council said that Rechebei's and Chung's work is critical to the perpetuation of the Chamorro language, which undergirds all indigenous cultural practices in the CNMI.

In the research and publications category, Borja and Roppul were recognized for their collaboration to research and write a 725-page book on traditional healing on the islands. Their work was based on oral interviews conducted on three islands, during which they brought to light certain aspects of this traditional knowledge that are considered proprietary. The publication presents traditional Chamorro and Carolinian healers and presents useful information about more than 100 medicinal plants.

Marianas High School speech and drama teacher Harold H. Easton was hailed as the outstanding humanities teacher of the year. Easton instills in his students an appreciation and understanding of both classical and modern theater and has effectively used language to communicate ideas and emotions. He also directs and produces local theatrical productions that include Shakespeare, classical musical, literary masterpieces and tales of local culture.

Fitial conferred the Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Award on the late Dr. Rita H. Inos, who passed away in August this year.

Inos was an educator, administrator, and cultural activist. During her tenure as the Public School System's education commissioner, she made major improvements to public education, including bringing PSS in line with national education standards and securing funding for the construction of six new schools. She was also credited for playing a key role in two successful conferences in the Chamorro language and culture and supervised the working group in revising the existing Chamorro-English dictionary.

The award was received on her behalf by her husband, Cristobal Inos, and daughter Blossom.

Also recognized during a special ceremony Friday night at Aqua Resort Club were the council's donors and partners in its many activities and programs. Former board members and staffers were also lauded for their contributions to the mission of the council: Dr. Debra Cabrera, Herman T. Guerrero, Gregorio Kilili Sablan, and the late Antonio Deleon Guerrero.

REPORT

From Page 1

the full mandate of the Safe Drinking Water Act, according to a CUC consultant.

Georgetown Consulting Group, in a letter to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, said that based on its initial review of the water department, the estimated across-the-board increase would be required to accomplish the objectives laid out in the stipulated order.

In the proposed water rates starting on Dec. 3, 2009, Georgetown Consulting recommends a $2.73 per gallon cost to users of zero to 3,000 gallons of water; $6.56 for consumers of 3001 to 15,000 galloons; $8.20 for 15,001 gallons to 30,000 gallons; $9.57 to those consuming from 30,001 gallons to 60,000 gallons of water; and $10.93 for those using over 60,000 gallons.

The consulting group said that residential customers who do not receive metered service are deemed to consume 6,000 gallons of water every month and will be charged metered rates. Commercial customers who do not receive metered service are deemed to consume 18,000 gallons of water every month and will be also charged on metered rates.

Government customers are also billed under this tariff.

The proposed new rates came after the group's recent review of the current information and data from the water department.

"Our review of information contained in CUC's interim financial plan filing with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as well as recently provided water department billing cycle information, indicates that there have been significant changes in sales of water services since our original filing and recommendations made in the docket testimony submitted on March 6, which adversely impact our previous findings," the consultant told the commission in the latest evaluation it filed.

These changes include revenues that did not materialize to the extent that was earlier forecasted.

"This is a result of declines in the number of water department customers and commodity sales and the impacts of the current worldwide recession," the CGC said.

There are also additional levels of debt that have been identified for the wastewater department but was not disclosed in the earlier proceeding, it said.

Others included the changes in personnel and operating expenses that have occurred relating to the initial implementation of certain stipulated order requirements.

CGC added that the interim financial plan does not also include capital improvement projects that CUC either has in process or scheduled for 2010 through 2012.

In March this year, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson signed the stipulated order that sets requirements and deadlines for CUC to meet.

The order represents the agreement between the CNMI and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency based on the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The stipulated order also provides a roadmap for providing improved water and sewer services in the CNMI.

HUNDREDS

From Page 1

Janna Evans, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services community outreach regional lead, kicked off the forum with a PowerPoint presentation on the interim final rule. David G. Gulik, district director of the USCIS for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, answered questions from the audience.

After the forum, Evans and Gulik responded to individual queries, as many workers milled around them on the stage, asking more questions and sharing their personal experiences and problems in obtaining U.S. visas, among other issues.

Majority of concerns raised is the difficulty of getting visas from U.S. embassies or consulates in their home countries and questions about re-entering the CNMI using a B1 or B2 visa (tourist visa). Evans noted that the issue was asked six times in six different ways.

"If you have a CNMI umbrella permit and B1/B2 visa and you leave and you go somewhere—anywhere, any country in the world—and you want to come back to the CNMI to resume your life and your work, you must have a valid visa," Evans said.

A B1 or B2 visa, she said, does not allow the holder to work.

Evans said if the alien worker knows that he or she is going to leave the CNMI, he or she needs to work with the employer to get a CW1 status (CNMI-only transitional worker).

"If you know you're not going to leave for two years, no problem," Evans said, adding that the CNMI-issued two-year "umbrella permits" will cover them.

She stressed that it is very important for alien workers who have a CW1 visa and want to leave the CNMI to get a CW1 visa from the U.S. embassy or U.S. consulate in their respective countries so that they can return and work in the CNMI.

"The B1/B2 [visa] will not put you in lawful status to work," Evans said.

Gulik explained to workers that visas are issued only outside the U.S.

"A visa is not a status. A visa is a permit to allow you to come to the U.S.," Gulik said.

Even if a CWI status is already given to a worker in the CNMI, it is not a guarantee that the U.S. embassy in the worker's country will issue a CW1 visa in order for him or her to come back to work, he added.

"We hope that the State Department will give a lot of faith to the fact that we gave you a CW1," Gulik said.

If a worker uses a B1/B2 visa to come back to the CNMI to resume his or her work, the worker will be violating the law because he or she is entering as a tourist, he said.

"When you come back to the CNMI, you should show what are you are going to do here. We don't want you to be in trouble," he said.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement Inc., said the forum was very informative and educational as people had lots of questions.

Just like in other forums about the interim final rule, the main concern was about the workers going to their country of origin and the need to have a U.S. visa in coming back, Syed said.

"And that is very hard [to get]," Syed said.

He said DHS should come up with some sort of remedy.

"Maybe they can issue a visa from here based on that CW1 so that the workers can easily go to their country for a short vacation and come back," he said.

Syed said their group would be holding a meeting to discuss the interim final rule.

Fil Taga president Mike Cruz said that, although the forum was informative, there are still a lot of areas that need further discussion, particularly on the question of Immediate Relative status and the B1/B2 visa.

DHS

From Page 1

lawyers to challenge it.

"These regulations affect all elements of our community—our struggling economy, our investors and employers, our entire workforce, and our senior citizens," said Fitial in a statement.

The CNMI, through counsel Jenner and Block LLP, filed the supplemental memorandum on Oct. 30, 2009, before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Howard P. Willens, special legal counsel to Fitial, also signed the memorandum. The U.S. government did not oppose the filing.

According to the CNMI's counsel, the interim permit rule sets forth the regulations that will govern the transition worker permit program, which is being challenged by the Commonwealth.

The Jenner and Block law firm said the defendants also issued an "interim final rule," scheduled to go into effect on Nov. 28, 2009, that purports to extend U.S. immigration laws to the CNMI.

"The Interim Permit Rule and Interim Immigration Rule further establish why the CNMI's motion for injunctive relief should be granted," Jenner and Block said.

First, it said, the issuance of the interim rules removes any doubt that the CNMI has standing and that its claims are "ripe."

"Defendants have repeatedly—and incorrectly—argued that the CNMI's claims were speculative and unripe because regulations implementing the [Consolidated Natural Resources] Act had not been issued," the law firm said. The CNRA contains the law that extends federal labor and immigration laws to the CNMI.

Second, Jenner and Block said, the interim rules demonstrate that the CNMI accurately portrayed the Act's consequences upon the CNMI, and that these consequences far exceed the bounds of Congress' authority to regulate the CNMI under the Covenant.

The interim permit rule, the law firm said, creates a scheme for issuing a new CNMI-only transitional worker permit (CW permits) to foreign workers in the CNMI. Under the rule, DHS—and not the CNMI—shall decide which employers shall obtain CW permits for which workers.

"This regulatory scheme ousts local control over two-thirds of the Commonwealth's private-sector workforce, dictates the ultimate removal of that population from the CNMI, and barely recognizes, much less accommodates, the devastating economic consequences this will have upon the Commonwealth," Jenner and Block said.

The law firm said the manner in which DHS issued the interim rules further confirms the injuries to local self-government that are being made under the purported authority of the Act.

Jenner and Block noted that, although the CNRA was enacted nearly 18 months ago, DHS waited to issue the interim rules just 31 days before the Act's effective date.

DHS did not provide notice and did not allow comments from the CNMI and others in the Commonwealth affected by these regulations, the law firm said.

"This is a blatant violation of the Administrative Procedure Act, and the Commonwealth is preparing papers, which it hopes to file early next week, seeking leave to amend its complaint to add a claim challenging this violation of the APA and seeking emergency injunctive relief and expedited briefing," the law firm added.

Jenner and Block pointed out that these are regulations that over the next two to five years will wipe out two-thirds of the CNMI's private sector workforce.

"The defendants have promulgated these rules by the force of central fiat from bureaucrats in Washington D.C., with no local input or transparency whatsoever, with not even an effort to solicit comments from the people most affected," the law firm said.

In his comment, Fitial said DHS urged dismissal of the CNMI's lawsuit because "DHS has not announced rules or regulations" and that therefore the Commonwealth "has no idea what the transitional period visa program will provide, who will be eligible, or what impact it will have on foreign workers."

"I believe that these new regulations dramatically support our contentions that the 'labor provisions' of the law violate our right of self-government guaranteed by the Covenant," Fitial said.

The governor said they want the court to consider these regulations before reaching a final decision on the CNMI's motion for a preliminary injunction.

Fitial said DHS published the interim final rule without complying with the notice and comment provisions of APA.

"The people of the Commonwealth have the right under this Act to participate in the rulemaking process and to have their comments considered carefully and openly by the department before any final regulations are issued 30 days before their effective date," Fitial said.

PSS teacher aides now number around 200

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System has hired additional teacher aides and assistants this school year to help classroom teachers in providing quality learning to students.

From 130 at the start of the school year, the Commissioner's Office reported that this has risen to about 200 to date.

Unlike classroom teachers, teacher aides and assistants are not included in any compensation plan and are provided a lower salary for their services. One needs just a high school diploma to become a teacher aide.

PSS has 556 classroom teachers as of last week. These include 392 highly qualified teachers and 164 non-HQTs.

Teacher aides and teacher assistants are separate from the classroom teachers' count.

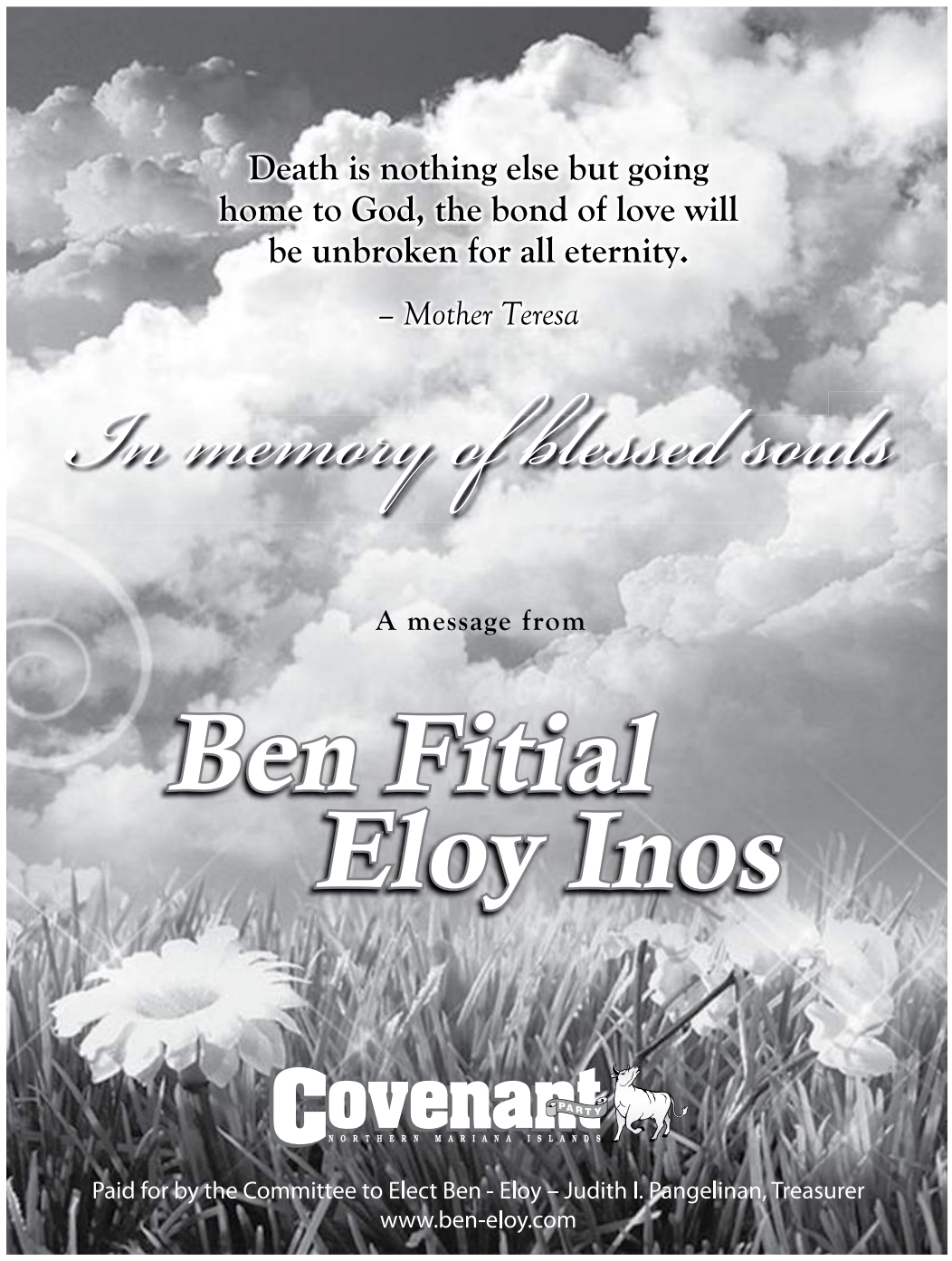
It was learned that all highly qualified classroom teachers were provided two-year employment contracts and are receiving higher pay based on their qualifications and credentials.

The non-HQT classroom teachers got one-year employment terms. However, once they pass the HQT requirements—a degree, valid teaching credentials, and Praxis—the one year contract will be amended to two years and their salary will be adjusted according to the compensation plan.

Under the HQT plan, a highly qualified teacher can receive up to a maximum of $47,000 in annual pay based on qualifications and credentials. Teachers who have yet to pass any Praxis test are provided a base salary of $28,000 per annum.

Last week, PSS recorded an increase in its HQT rate, with 71 percent of its teachers now deemed highly qualified. The number is expected to increase in the next weeks as many teachers are waiting for the results of their Praxis exams.

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted


Death is nothing else but going home to God, the bond of love will be unbroken for all eternity.
– Mother Teresa
In memory of blessed souls
A message from
Ben Fitial
Eloy Inos
Covenant Party
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ben - Eloy – Judith I. Pangelinan, Treasurer
www.ben-eloy.com

Local chefs face off in Rota Tilapia Cook-Off

The Northern Marianas College has announced the winners of its first-ever Tilapia Cook-off Competition, which was held recently at the Roundhouse on Rota.

Laura Manglona bagged the top prize of $100 in the Youth Division (ages 15-18), while Leonardo Calvo topped the Adult Division (over 18), winning $150.

Manglona triumphed in the Youth Division with her Tilapia Soup, which included fresh tomatoes, onions, beans, and coconut milk; and Calvo's Spicy Buttered Tilapia, which wore a vinaigrette topping, proved to be the victor in the Adult Division.

Eskabeche Tilapia

Spicy Buttered Tilapia

Tilapia Soup

Tilapia Lechen Niyok

Entries were judged on taste, texture, originality, creative presentation, and use of local ingredients. Each contender was given three pieces of tilapia to use in their entry.

Other winners included Abraham Mendiola (2nd place, Youth), Nature Atalig (3rd place, Youth), Maria Fujihira (2nd place, Adult), and Coltilde San Nicolas (3rd place, Adult).

A total of nine individuals submitted one recipe each to compete in the event, which was organized by the NMC Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service, a program under the Division of Community Programs & Services.

Judges for the event were Margaret Tudela, Tomas Mendiola, and Trina Taisacan for the adult competitors and Tomas Atalig and Carmen Atalig for the youth.

"We are extremely pleased with the turnout and all the recipes submitted by the contestants," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "CREES is also currently in the planning stages of compiling a tilapia cookbook that will showcase all the recipes submitted at the cook-off competition."

The competition was aimed at establishing a widespread acceptance of tilapia consumption, which in turn can increase its supply and encourage youth into aquaculture as a means of life skills development and delinquency diversion.

"The event played a key role in our efforts to promote the local consumption of tilapia, which also happens to be great source of protein," said Fernandez. "We are extremely grateful to all who supported this event by donating their time and resources."

The competition, which was supported by the NMC-CREES Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program and the 4-H Youth Development Program, was made possible by funds donated by the Western Sales & Trading Company, Saipan. Over 50 pounds of red and silver tilapia used in the competition was also donated by Rota tilapia farmers Nicolas Songsong and Joshua Calvo. ***(NMC)***

For Senate 2009
#5
Transparent
Impressive
Native
Accountable
Paid for by friends of Tina

38 social workers enhance skills with 2-day training

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Social worker providers pose with officials and representatives of various government agencies after a ceremony Friday at Northern Marianas College. Thirty-eight participants were awarded certificate of competence after completing a two-day training early this month.

The Public School System Head Start program and the Northern Marianas College honored Friday 38 social workers in various government agencies for completing a two-day training to enhance their skills.

In a special ceremony at the campus, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez awarded certificates of competence to social service providers from the Division of Youth Services, Community Guidance Center, Karidat, and PSS Head Start.

The special training was conducted by Dr. Marvin Ali on Oct. 13 - 14.

Maria Malua Peter, Family and Community Partnership manager for PSS Head Start, praised the agencies' commitment in working toward credentialing their employees.

"This will help our social workers be more prepared in serving the needs of families," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Friday's event was organized by the Head Start in collaboration with NMC's Community Development Institute, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and the Department of Public Health.

Peter encouraged other social workers to join in their next trainings slated for March 2010.

In their message to participants, both Fernandez and Peter encouraged them to continue to seek learning for their development.

For Ramona S. Camacho, a social worker for DYS, the certification is a testament to her commitment to do better in her job.

"It enhanced my social work skills and I learned the new laws on social workers, which are very important," she said, adding that the training also provided a better vision to satisfy their clientele.

For 72-year-old Connie Bernardos, her participation was motivated by her strong desire to better serve in the social development of kids. Bernardos is a social worker at DYS for over a year and teaches kids from 3 to 5 years old.

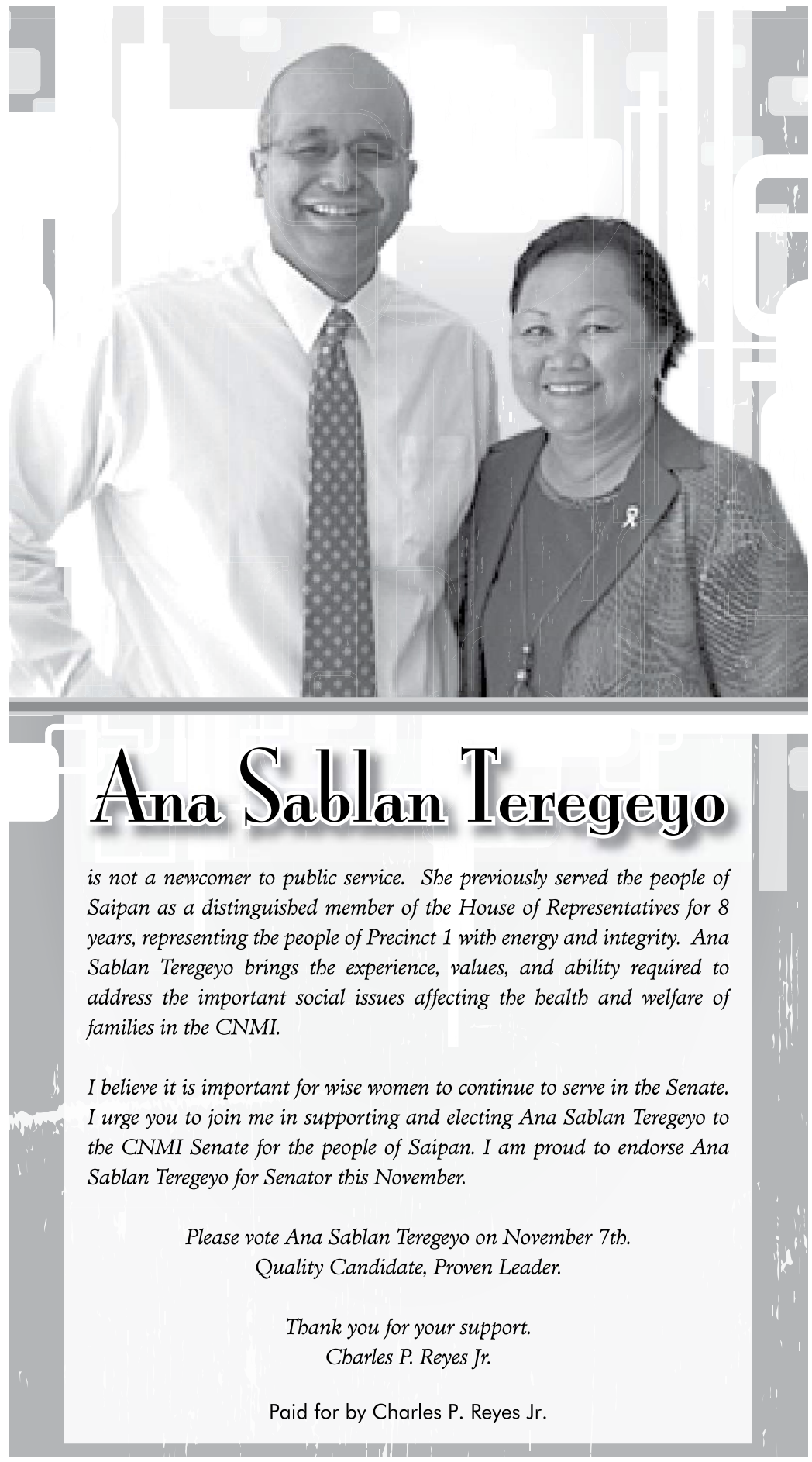
Tee Abraham of NMC's Community Development Institute emphasized the importance of the training so these workers will be more effective in their work.

Head Start is a federally-funded program that requires its personnel to obtain a degree and some specific credentials to continue to receive federal assistance.

Saipan Tribune learned that there is no program offered on the island at present that provides college credits for staffers who want to apply for a credential program in social services.

Because of this, a class was created in collaboration with NMC to offer the continuing education units, or CEU, which provides 3 units for the first two-day session and 3 units for the last sessions.

MART®
Receipt
Festival
We would like to invite everyone to H-Mart receipt festival. Enjoy your shopping and get free gifts for holiday season.
Festival Period
Nov.1, 2009 ~ Jan.10, 2010
01 Redeemable Date
Dec.15, 2009 ~ Jan.10, 2010
1. Collet your receipts.
2. Redeem free gifts according to below amounts.
02 Free Gifts List
Choose 1item on each amounts.
Price
Free Gifts
$500
Chicken Leg Q.(22LB) 1Box, Pork Spareribs (20LB) 1Box , Anchor Milk (1LT*12) 1Box, Coca Cola (355ml * 24)1Box
$400
HI-C (250ml*24) 1Box, Portable Gas Stove 1EA, Charmin Tissue (24roll) 1Pack, Beef Short Ribs (4LB) 1Pack
$300
Chicken Wingette 3LB, GAIN Detergent (50oz)1EA, Korean(Beef) Noodle (86g*12) 1Box, ILY CARLROSE Rice 10LB
$200
Puriss Water(500ml*20) 1Box, PUREX Detergent (80oz)1EA, JOY Dish Liquid (30oz)1EA, Butane Gas 1Pack (4pcs)
Visit H Mart for more details.
Free items are changable, depending on availability.


Ana Sablan Teregeyo
is not a newcomer to public service. She previously served the people of Saipan as a distinguished member of the House of Representatives for 8 years, representing the people of Precinct 1 with energy and integrity. Ana Sablan Teregeyo brings the experience, values, and ability required to address the important social issues affecting the health and welfare of families in the CNMI.
I believe it is important for wise women to continue to serve in the Senate. I urge you to join me in supporting and electing Ana Sablan Teregeyo to the CNMI Senate for the people of Saipan. I am proud to endorse Ana Sablan Teregeyo for Senator this November.
Please vote Ana Sablan Teregeyo on November 7th.
Quality Candidate, Proven Leader.
Thank you for your support.
Charles P. Reyes Jr.
Paid for by Charles P. Reyes Jr.

Happy 17th birthday to Crystal Songsong! Enjoy your day and may you have many, many more birthdays to come! We love you! Greetings coming out from all your loved ones.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

From left, Rghen Puntilar as first lady Michelle Obama and the family of scholars, Frank and Carol Demapan and their son Christian Michael Songsong Demapan, celebrate Halloween at American Memorial Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 3rd birthday to Davierrin "Grease" C. Blas, left, and 50th birthday to Grandpa Dave, who are both celebrating their special day today, Nov. 2. We love you both! Greetings come from the family.

Marianas High School counselors and Main Office staff get into the Halloween spirit.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The staff of Saipan Southern High School showcase their fabulous '80s get-up for Halloween.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BASIC TRAINING

PFC John Atalig Ayuyu, second from left, former Rota youth senator and battalion commander for JROTC, Rota High School, graduated from Army Basic Training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina on Oct. 30, 2009. Attending the graduation ceremony is his sister Janah Ayuyu, left, mother Alvina Ayuyu, second from right, and sister Jorene Ayuyu. Not in photo is his father, Juan M. Ayuyu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FOR SENATOR PETE P. REYES WHY NOT!

Why hire someone to represent you? Senator Reyes is doing it for FREE! His entire Senate Salary since 2002 has been deposited into the CNMI Scholarship Trust Account. $265,275.19 thus far, and much more…Why not keep him in the Senate.

A Public Servant YOU can rely on!

8 REYES, Pete Pangelinan
(Republican)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Senator Pete P. Reyes

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 2, 1999

Drive launched vs Art. 12 restriction

Critics have launched a campaign against a legislative initiative seeking to restrict to the indigenous residents the right to vote on issues involving land ownership in the CNMI. The opposition, led by DFS Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce, is urging the CNMI voters to reject the proposal, which is one of the issues they will have to decide on when they fill in the ballots on Saturday. The proposal is contained in Legislative Initiative 11-1 which provides that "only persons of Northern Marianas descent can vote on constitutional amendments affecting the protection against alienation of land," commonly known as Article 12.

Kagman homestead, CHC expansion top project list

Homestead development in Kagman and the expansion of the Commonwealth Health Center are two priority projects being eyed by the Legislature under the $30 million loan secured by the government from Bank of Guam. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Karl T. Reyes said a forthcoming appropriation measure will specifically set aside to both plans the bulk of the money from the loan and federal construction grants under the capital improvement projects. Part of the interim financing ahead of a bond float, the loan will match an equal amount of CIP/702 Covenant funding which will give the CNMI some $60 million in fresh funds to undertake various infrastructure development.

Nov. 2, 2000

Bishop shuns abortion pill

Bishop Tomas A. Camacho said yesterday he was dismayed over reports that the Food and Drug Administration has recently approved an abortion pill which he described as an "assault on the sanctity of life and on individual unborn children." In a statement faxed to the media, Bishop Camacho objected to the sale and distribution of RU-486, or the mifepristone, citing the legalized abortion drug curtails the growth of innocent lives. "How many more ways can we create to strike at the most holy of gifts God has given us, the ability to co-create new life? This is not just a question of choice, for an unborn child is not a mere appendage to the body of another. That child is a new life entrusting its very existence to that other," the bishop said.

Govt revenues drop 9 pct. in 1st half

Government revenues during the first six months of the financial year 2000 dropped nine percent to $101.3 million from the average $111.45 million in the same period last year, according to a report obtained from the commerce department. Officials said the first half decline in government earnings is a clear indication that the Northern Marianas economy continues to rally weaker than the pre-1997 period although most Asian economies have already bounced back. Finance managers blame the significant drop in revenue collection during the first half of the Fiscal Year 2000 to the weak consumer confidence which continue to prevail on the island, aggravated by the sudden shift in the spending habits of CNMI visitors.

Nov. 2, 2001

NMI to name new governor tomorrow

Thousands of Northern Marianas voters are expected to troop to various polling precincts tomorrow to seal the fate of the next CNMI governor. This, as a myriad of tactics and mudslinging flew during the last few hours of the campaign period, in desperate efforts by some candidates to win a government seat in the November 3 election. Republican Party candidates allegedly coerced employees to attend political rallies and vote for GOP bets in exchange for employment in the government. The GOP was also accused of forcing their way in to conduct campaign sorties in several areas in the Northern Marianas regardless of schedules and other parties' campaign.

Senate OKs 7-day extension on absentee ballot deadline

Racing to beat the November 3 elections, the Senate adopted yesterday the bill that would extend the receiving period for absentee ballots-by an additional seven days. House Bill 12-421 finally made it through the Legislature two days before the elections, giving Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio just one day to act on the bill. Anticipation is high that the Governor would sign the measure into law. All six senators present during yesterday's session unanimously voted to pass House Bill 12-421, which was the only measure tacked during the session. The Tinian delegation-Sens. Joaquin G. Adriano, David M. Cing and Jose M. dela Cruz-were absent.

6 Guantanamo detainees resettle in Palau

KOROR, Palau (AP)—Six Chinese Muslims released from Guantanamo Bay but still wanted at home as separatists arrived Sunday on their new tropical island home of Palau after the tiny Pacific nation agreed to a U.S. request to resettle the men.

The ethnic Uighurs were met Sunday at Palau's airport by President Johnson Toribiong and then taken to their residence to rest, a statement from the president's office said.

Palau agreed in June to Washington's request to temporarily resettle the men, who have been held by the U.S. since their capture in Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2001.

The Pentagon determined last year that the Uighurs were not "enemy combatants" but they have been in legal limbo ever since, as President Barack Obama sought countries willing to take the Uighurs as part of his plan to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility by next January.

"President Toribiong's decision to permit the temporary resettlement of the Uighurs in Palau was a humanitarian gesture based on the finest tradition of the Palauan culture, which since time immemorial has always given shelter and sustenance to people in need," the Palau president's statement said.

Uighurs are from Xinjiang, an isolated region of China that borders Afghanistan, Pakistan and six Central Asian nations. They are Turkic-speaking Muslims who say they have long been repressed by the Chinese government. They fear they would be arrested, tortured or executed if sent back to China.

China has said that insurgents are leading an Islamic separatist movement in Xinjiang and wants them returned.

Overnight, about 10 policemen stood outside the home where the men will live, on a side street in the heart of Koror, where most of Palau's 20,000 residents live and work. Their building, which has a bank on the ground floor, has undergone construction in recent weeks to accommodate the men. It is a five-minute walk from Koror's only mosque, one of two in the country.

Palau has a Muslim population of about 500, mostly migrant workers from Bangladesh.

Toribiong's statement said the Uighurs would be provided medical care, housing and education, including English lessons and instruction in skills that will help them find a job.

The U.S. Department of Justice said in a statement that it would continue to consult with Palau regarding the former detainees.

U.S.-based lawyers for three of the released men praised Palau for giving the men their freedom.

"These men want nothing more than to live peaceful, productive lives in a free, democratic nation safe from oppression by the Chinese," said Eric Tirschwell of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel law firm. "Thanks to Palau, which has graciously offered them a temporary home, they now have that chance."

Before this transfer of the Uighurs, there were about 221 prisoners still held at Guantanamo.

Palau has also offered to take six of the seven other Uighurs still held at Guantanamo. One remaining Uighur did not receive an invitation to Palau over concerns about his mental health.

Four Uighur detainees were resettled in Bermuda earlier this year. In 2006, Albania accepted five Uighur detainees.

Made up of eight main islands plus more than 250 islets, Palau is best known for diving and tourism and is located some 500 miles (800 kilometers) east of the Philippines in the Pacific Ocean.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting this Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's next general membership meeting will be this Wednesday, Nov. 4, at Saipan Grand Hotel's Seaside Hall. The guest speaker will be Gerald Aevermann of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which is the Department of Homeland Security component agency responsible for the on-the-ground security of the nation's borders. Aevermann will discuss CBP's mission on and following the November 28 implementation of the INA in the Commonwealth.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for the public. ***(SCC)***

Deadline today for filing quarterly returns

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 3rd Quarter deadline for filing the quarterly returns is today, Nov. 2, 2009. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am until 6:30pm on Monday, Nov. 2, 2009. The office of the Division of Revenue & Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For additional information call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1065, Collection Branch. ***(PR)***

USS *Los Angeles* visits Saipan

The USS *Los Angeles*, a 362-foot Los Angeles-class submarine with approximately 110 officers and crew, arrived Saturday morning, Oct. 31, on its second visit to the Commonwealth. The CNMI community is urged to help continue to build the islands' reputation as the preferred MWR (Morale, Welfare, and Recreation) destination in the Asia-Pacific Region by warmly welcoming these sailors to the islands. The *Los Angeles* is scheduled to depart this week.

Thanks For Giving Walk has new date

The Team Courage sponsored walk has been rescheduled to Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009. The Thanks For Giving Walk is coordinated by CNMI cancer survivors and will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base, starting at 7am.

Participating in this event is an opportunity for families and friends to get a head start in fielding a team for the MMAC event next year. Veteran teams for the MMAC have already begun fundraising.

Interested in joining, but don't have a team yet? No worries! Contact Janine Nogis at 483-4207 or send an email to MMAC2010@googlegroups.com. ***(PR)***

ELECT KAIPAT
SENATE #4

✔ Honesty ✔ Hard work
✔ Service ✔ Knowledge
✔ Get-it-done spirit

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jacinta M. Kaipat, Fernando M. Romolor, Treasurer

ELECT KAIPAT - SENATE #4

"Jobs Are The #1 Priority In Reviving Our Economy"

Good jobs – permanent, living–wage jobs.

As a member of the 15th Legislature, I worked hard to get a labor reform bill passed to open up jobs for our people.

As a Deputy Secretary of Labor, I changed the regulations to require retails stores dealing in food stamps and small businesses to hire U.S. citizens.

We can succeed, step-by-step, together.

Paid for by Charles P. Reyes Jr.

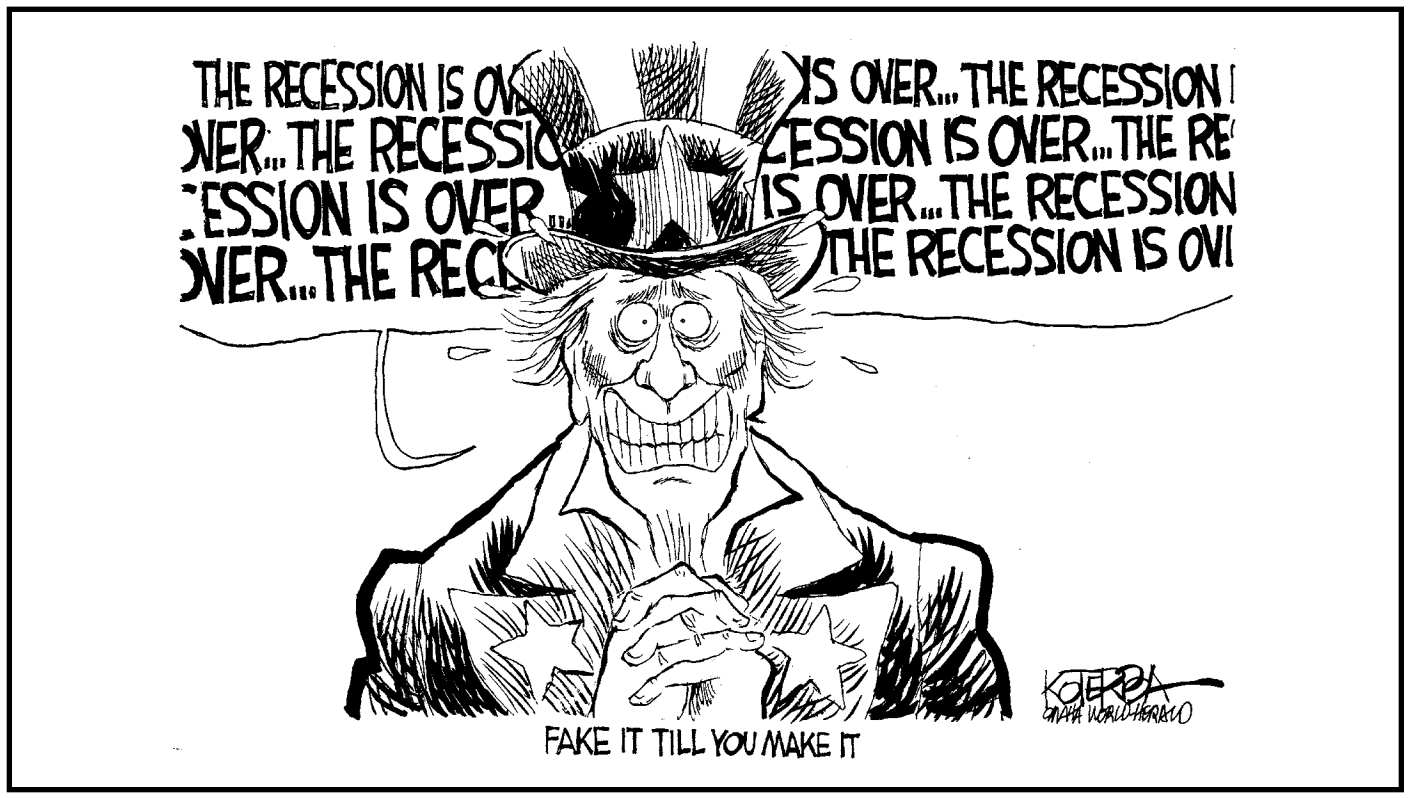
Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 262

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association


THE RECESSION IS OVER...THE RECESSION IS OVER...THE RECESSION IS OVER...

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Day - 5 b4 e-day

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

As an associate at the computer outlet Micro Center in Vienna, VA outside of D.C. in the '90s, I thought myself tech-savvy until cell phones swept across the communications market and left me behind feeling discarded like a Garapan condom on the Puerto Rico solid waste landfill of the dustbin of history.

Four years ago, two of my students in 6th grade seated at opposite sides of the room were studiously doing their Social Studies test when I noticed them texting on their cell phones under the table. They were cross-checking each other's answers! I dutifully gave them an extra point in technology, invalidated their SS test result, and docked them two points on character education. I then proceeded to have them educate me on common texting symbols such as 'BTW' and 'IMHO'; never found out what 'LOL' means.

Elections to me are communal rituals that are about to go the way of the artifacts headed for Marpi. But like other antiquated practices as those of revered religious rites and ceremonies already devoid of their intended meanings, we adhere to our inherited habits and learned behavior with the tenacity of dogmatic allegiances last devastatingly seen in Europe in the medieval religious wars, and now revived in the Prophet's *Madrasa Islam* and their *jihad.*

Elections in our tradition evolved from the Brits who after the landowners finally had the gumption to tell their King what they expected of him in the *Magna Carta,* created a two-tier system to preserve the prerogatives of the court and the rights of the Commons. The English Parliament reflected that understanding.

The diversity of the American colonies abolished the privileges of royalty but maintained the comprehensive and aristocratic perspective in the Senate and local grounding in the House of Representatives. Good old George Washington was offered the throne but he declined the power and the title. Elections were held to select representatives of States (two each) and districts (# by population) to legislate laws at a time when the fastest way to get from the Illini to the Potomac was, at least, two weeks. Now that we can text our thoughts in a split second, and blog our way to eternity, we still operate out of political structures prevailing more than two centuries ago!

Executive officers were also elected to implement the laws; a judiciary was appointed to adjudicate differences of views and actions—a government of check and balances based in distrust before collaboration. Reagan gave that an update with his "trust but verify," but rogues have prevailed over saints, thus the need to verify for transparency, accountability, and openness in the public sector.

American law is heavily weighted on precedence. American governance leans toward defining the limits of public service, given its experience with the malignancy of British rule, as opposed to establishing the frontiers of possibilities. Historically, it is the civic sector that did that, with its demands for real equality (abolition, universal suffrage, civil and human rights).

Today, newer governments like South Africa wrote its Constitution on what it expects its government to do, rather than limit what it cannot do. Governments that evolved from the U.S. Trust Territories in the Pacific, for good or ill, decided to go on their own save the Northern Mariana Islands, which covenanted to marry into the federal union of States of North America, and therein lies its curse and blessing.

While the intent of election was to be a selection process for those who will give form to the public will, we have converted it to family battlefields and personality combat zones. We do not even bother with wars of ideology anymore, if we ever did. Like our common approach to sports, elections have also become avenues where contenders vie for bragging rights, a dangerous practice particularly in thin-skinned cultures that value "face," or some personal virtue of "respect."

The claim against violated "respect" zones often aired by pompous politicians, in my book, is nothing but a sign of personal insecurity. Let me back track. Current personality theories inform us that egos are our survival tools. The problem is not that we have them; it is our propensity to be stuck with them, thus we are reduced to only look after No. 1. Selfhood, however, is dependent on the health of our egos. Personality is the face that our ego takes in order to function within a social unit. It is our public face that allows us to "get along," to be functional rather than dysfunctional. The inability to transcend our personality leaves us to be zealous polishers of our favored mirror.

There is a realm that is way beyond the ego and the personality. My picture of that is something like this: My ego and personality is a micron in a letter-size bond paper; stretch that paper to 200mX2-miles, keeping myself as a microdot on the corner and that would be my ego and personality at its operational best.

The Greeks understood one's self being born free into that trustworthy and mysterious 2-mile long realm, and knowing it is as having a "soul." Before alcoholic beverages took over the word, it used to be called the world of the "spirit." Thus, it is often the case that the one claiming to have been disrespected has actually a limited respect for his/her own soul and spirit. We often hear that as claim of violation against one's race and culture.

Hey, It is Halloween (hallowed evening). I am allowed to speak of things at the core of the mundane and the secular, ain't I! The surrounding political hoopla this weekend do give one the feel of a launching of medieval Crusades against the Saracen with a carnival atmosphere complete with "criers, callers, jesters, and tumblers, along with the hawkers, hookers and the hooters."

On Saturday's crowded Beach Road parties (the rain notwithstanding) I did manage to meet Angelo's mom in the Democratic Party's *pala-pala* by Beach Road with no less than my favorite Democrat Justo Quitugua at the BBQ pit. Would that Ed Salas of the 16th Legislature is still in the running but we gather he has personal matters to attend to. He has our best wishes. Though an unrepentant apostate and heretic, I lit up a few candles for Tina Sablan, agreeing with Marianne Williamson for once that this is The Age of Miracles!

Apologies to JuanPan for calling him by his brother's name JunPan in Saturday's musings, though I was told, the confusion actually works to his advantage! Oh, the title? This is my feeble attempt at texting: *Day minus five before election day.* Didn't work, did it? Told you. Could not even get my texting right.

Ginen Un` Poblen Guma

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Megai gi entre hita man-pogsai yan lulug fitme gi un` poblen guma. Tat ti sumaunau gi chechu familia `nai todus mañgalamten deste gualu esta huyuñg gi halom tasin rubentasion, kontodu chechu kasadules gi sabana yan potput halom tanu.

Gi chagu na hogsu, man-daña hit gumuadug gadu` yan dagun a`paka` pot para ta gulaye kandun tolañg `sino manug. Paire yan sustansiau na sentada para i tropa.

Gi kinisechan gualu, tanae` dididi` i bisinu. Gi mismu tiempu, hanae` hit dididi` i pipeska na bisinuta. Todu kinalamten, motmut ayudu ginen kada unu giya hita. Ayu ha` u ñalañg i gagu`. Los dimas, todus ma-usune chechu gualu, peskan tasi yan halom tanu.

I aminasun pineble ti patte este gi bokabularion kutturata sa` mananimu hit gi kinalamten tinanum yan inaligau kinanu` familia yan komunida. Estague` na rason na makat machapag i relasion natibu gi tanu yan i tasi gi oriyaña. Deste antigu este na kuttara ma-estable gi hilu tanu yan tasi `nai machuda` masahalom niha si guelu yan guela. Patte gi haga` natibu parehu ha` tanu yan tasi deste kuatru mit años antes.

`Nai man-machapag hit ginen tradisionta `nai mafañagu i "poble" na palabra. Man-mamueba hit deste humidde na linala` gualu yan tasi guatu gi fina` chochu `nai masueddu i natibu pot ma-emplea komu hutnaleru. Guiya este i

mafananaan ekonomian salape.

Establesau mapega papa` gi un` planu este na modun linala` ginen gobietnon federat. I dichu planu i para una bula magi ayudu yan programa siha. Gigun ta payune ennau na modun linala (masueddun natibu) para u hala tatte `sino punu i programa siha para u sapet i tautauta. Gaige este na planu gi mafananaan "Solomon Report". Makat este para hita sa` man-tautau hit ha` lokue. Estague buente na ni ekonomiaña mismu ti siña ha danche taimanu para satbaña pagu na tiempu.

Hu hassu antes na maseha dididi na kineni guihan yan pañglau, mañgontentu ham yan motmut minagof gi ha`anen mame. Maseha man-malagsiye ham kasunes ginen `an diñgun tatan mame defuntu, ha tampe ham i amku ya ni unu tumuñgu` na uttimu nina` siñan nanahu in` i`isa guihe na tiempu. Lau motmut minago ginen animun un` sumen poble na nana.

Dispues metgot gi kutturata i ayudu gi namase` na patgon yan chelu. Ta sakrifisia konbiñienteta para ta ayuda i namase` na chelu piot ya inutet pat tai pintu` `sino offisiu. Kontodu i poble na nanata muna`sahñge dididi gi suetteña para `an mattu ayu na patgoña i mas namase`. Hana` atug ya ha entrega para usun famaguoña. Esta nina` tatañges silensiu i amku `an halie` ennau na patgoña.

Lau gi todus pot todus, i amku` guihe hulu` ha a`atan papa` hafa mauleg bidata para ta ayuda i man-namase` siha na mañeluta. Ti ilelegta nae` todu, lau na ma`agim korasonmu gi namase, muñga machanda pat mafachaleg. Ha nesesita kanaimu sa` gaige gi halum luñu didog na chinatsaga. Nae` nu i ayudumu sa` siempre mit buettas mas para hagu gi birada.

Estague` regaluña i makreansa mauleg gi hilu fitme na pisun prinsipiu gi halum un` poblen guma. Si Yuus Maase`!

CNMI should question federal limits

By JUAN T. LIZAMA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Federalization is one of the key issues in the upcoming gubernatorial election. The issue is also before the federal court in Washington, thanks to Gov. Benigno Fitial's lawsuit. That lawsuit asks the court to determine whether Congress over-reached in enacting laws that will shift the balance of authority in key areas from our local government to the U.S. federal government.

The federal government first tried to take over in the late 1990s, in an effort to stop what was perceived to be human rights abuses by garment factories. The original purpose of the federal takeover had nothing to do with homeland security. But the original effort failed.

Then, the federal takeover bill resurfaced. It was passed by Congress not because it was still needed. However, by the time the federal takeover was passed, all but about two garment factories were gone. The last two are now gone.

Enter our Governor. His lawsuit has provided us with an opportunity to explain this important recent history, and to be heard in the proper forum for settling disputes between the CNMI and federal government. Governor Fitial has taken a stance on the behalf of those of us who believe the U.S. Congress exceeded their scope of legislative authority.

It is important to recognize that throughout U.S. history there has been a political tug-of-war going on between those who support states' rights and believe that federal power should be narrow, and those who favor a strong federal government with broad powers. The U.S. Founding Fathers themselves argued strongly over this issue in drafting the U.S. Constitution. Thomas Jefferson was the leader of the states' rights group. He understood that local government requires real authority to provide for the needs of the local community.

Certainly no one would say that Thomas Jefferson was less of an American because he stood up for the rights of local government. The same goes for Governor Fitial and all those who appreciate and support his bold act of going before the courts.

Federalization is not an "inevitable consequence" of our relationship with the U.S. The Covenant was designed to ensure that the CNMI would retain important local autonomy even in midst of a powerful federal government. 'What limits does the Covenant places on federal power?'—that is a question worth asking each and every time a federal law impacting our islands is passed by Congress, even if we have to ask those questions in federal court.

While it is true that the United States can take control of our immigration, the United States has no right to interfere with our labor laws. The Covenant guarantees to us "self government" and that includes setting all terms and conditions for who is employed here. The federal takeover goes beyond immigration and gets into how we control employment. (Remember, the original purpose of the federal takeover was to stop labor abuses by garment factories). The fact that the federal takeover goes beyond immigration control violates the Covenant. Therefore, the federal takeover is both unjustified and unlawful.

Our priority should be to give Governor Fitial a chance to litigate the issues. He is doing that now in the proper forum for all of us.

Juan Lizama is a former associate judge at the CNMI Superior Court.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84	▼76
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼79

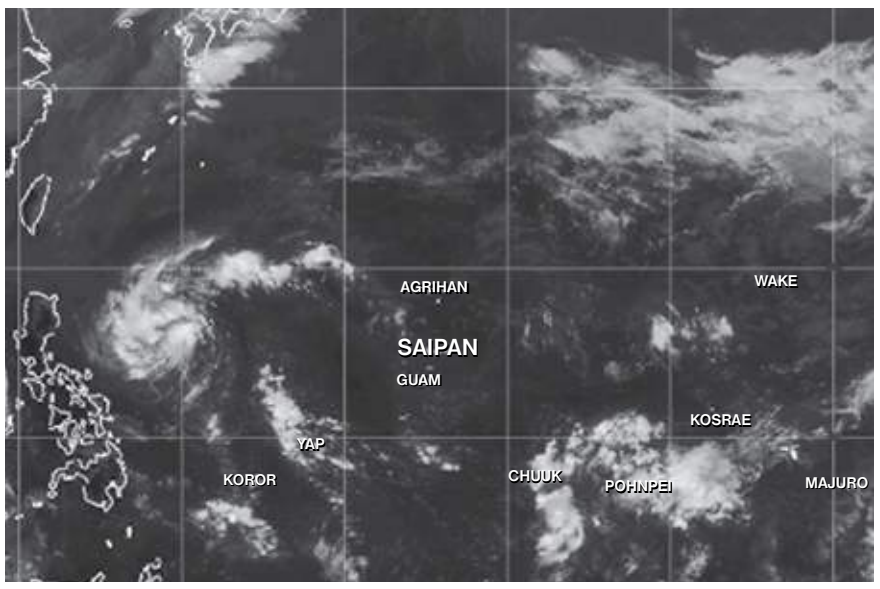
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼60
Beijing	Sunny	▲37	▼23
Hong Kong	Partly Sunny	▲77	▼61
Honolulu	Showers	▲82	▼72
London	Showers	▲52	▼46
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲87	▼60
Manila	Showers	▲88	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲81	▼58
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼74
New York	Sunny	▲59	▼47
Osaka	Showers	▲56	▼43
Paris	Showers	▲47	▼40
Pusan	Showers	▲50	▼32
Rome	Showers	▲62	▼52
Salem	Cloudy	▲56	▼39
San Francisco	Sunny	▲74	▼53
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲39	▼28
Tokyo	Showers	▲59	▼42
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲60	▼44

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:01 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
7:34 AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:11 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:33 PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends from a circulation centered near 15N131E southeastward between Palau and Yap to 6N140E then eastward through a weak circulation south of Pohnpei at 4N156E to end near 5N165E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are west of a line from 17N132E to 15N132E and within 50 miles of a line from 19N132E to 19N136E and near Yap within 75 miles of a line from 12N136E to 8N138E and south of Palau within 80 miles of a line from 5N132E to 2N141E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Chuuk eastward across Pohnpei and Kosrae are in an area from 12N159E to 5N166E to 2N153E to 8N152E back to 12N159E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Kwajalein atoll within 75 miles of a line from 13N171E to 14N176E and southeast of Majuro between the equator and 8N from 173E to 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Wednesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Friday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:10 PM	5:21 AM
Tuesday	5:58 PM	6:18 AM
Wednesday	6:52 PM	7:19 AM
Thursday	7:51 PM	8:21 AM
Friday	8:53 PM	9:23 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Letters to the Editor

Aha!, he said as she cut off his left ear

CUC has accrued $634,000 in penalties during the last six months for failure to comply with EPA orders. Now we know why the governor has kept issuing emergency declarations month after month. They allowed him to get away with bypassing local regulations by bullying local departments. Did he think he could bypass federal regulations and orders as well?

You want more evidence of CUC's recalcitrance? Easy; just take a look at the Federal Register for the last year. Every day, there are between five and 15 notices of filings, compliances, proposals, and other actions from all over the country by utility companies. It has amounted to around 3,500 plus entries—and not a single one of them has been from the CNMI in spite of EPA orders.

Could it be that CUC signed those orders with no intention to actually comply with them? The EPA described the noncompliance of CUC as "alarming." In federal parlance, that's about as strong as you can get. In fact, the term is usually reserved to describe fanatical activities in rogue states.

EPA is considering what steps to take next and, while the wheels sometimes grind slowly, one very real choice is for the federal government to undertake the work needed to comply with the orders and then send a *bill* to the CNMI for work done. My personal estimate for all of it: Somewhere around $10 million; up to $25 million or more if they decide to include air compliance as well!

I'll just bet the only response from CUC will be denial *and* that oft repeated threat to "raise rates" as the only option. Well, I feel sorry for the next governor, because all this load of garbage is going to come right down around the next guy's head.

There have been many opportunities for CUC to plan a path of recovery. CUC has even brought three highly qualified managers on board, *albeit* under reluctant obedience to federal instructions in order to receive millions in federal monies for repairs of a doomed generation capacity. They have actually made some technical rehabilitative progress, but were they simply brought here as window dressing to satisfy the appearance of managerial capacity for the short term? Who wants to take bets on how long they will stick around under the thumb of all this political flim-flam?

The governors' skullduggery and the Legislature's petty tinkering in ill-fated attempts to substitute poor law for poor management along with an abominable disdain to work with federal authorities may have finally sunk the ship.

So what now, governor? All of this was foretold and suggestions made in various letters to the editor since 2004 and particularly of Aug. 15, 2008; Sept. 2, 2008; Oct. 2, 2008; Nov. 12, 2008; and Dec. 9, 2008, to name a few. It appears you and your minions don't take well to suggestions that differ from your own. Well, now we see the consequences your way of obtaining a more stable power supply has wrought—so far. The piper is piping. Federal receivership has been called for. Now is the time.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose, Tinian

THE IDEAL

From Page 10

ship abilities. Let us remind ourselves that the first step to prosperity and happiness begins with us. Let us not neglect our duty.

The following is a prayer for all of us in this crucial period. It was written by Wayne Dosick who was inspired by St. Francis of Assisi:

Where there is hatred, May I bring love,

Where there is pain, May I bring healing,

Where there is darkness, May I bring light,

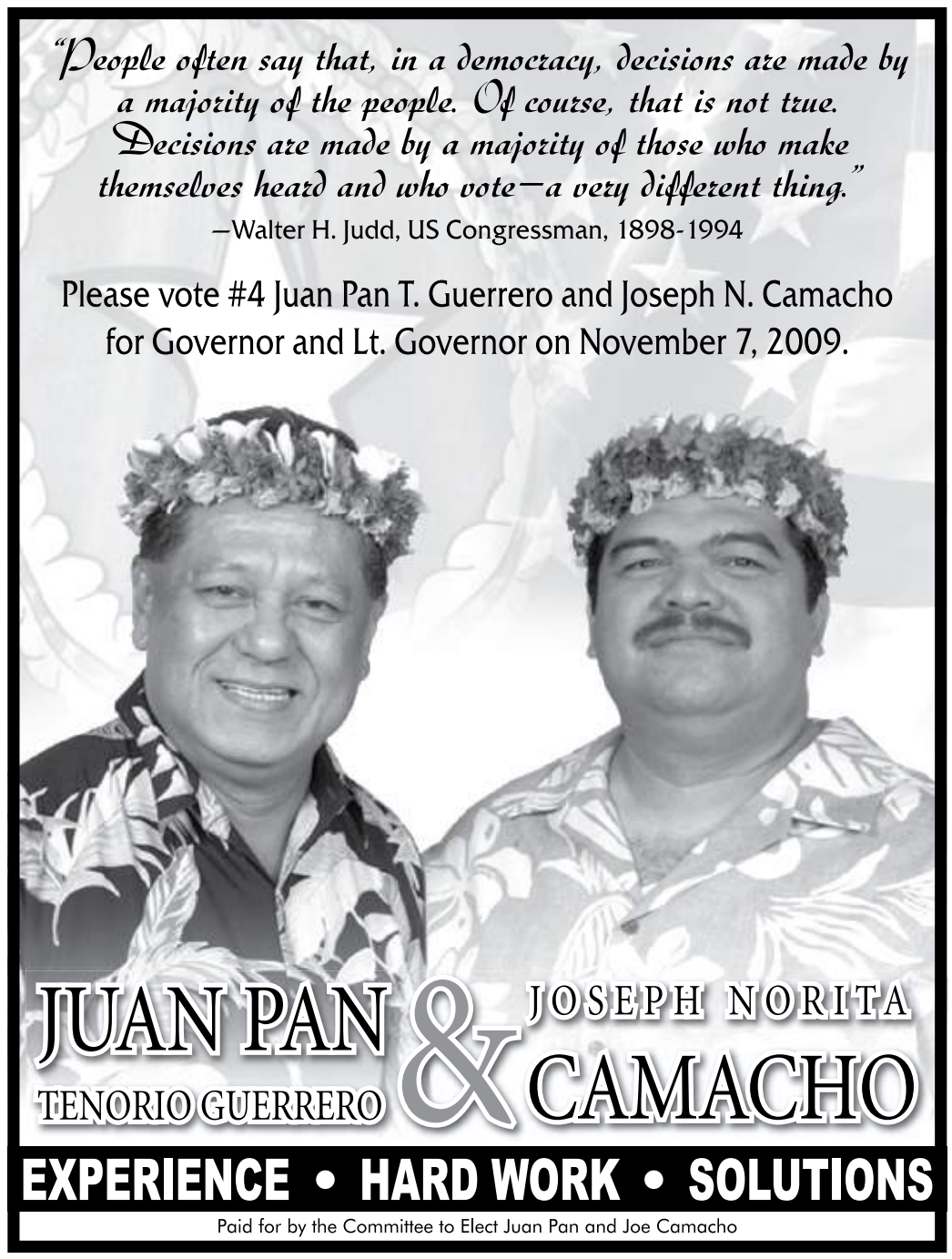
Where there is despair, May I bring hope,

Where there is discord, May I bring harmony,

Where there is strife, May I bring peace,

Make this a better world and begin with me!

See you at the polls on Nov. 7, 2009. Remember your vote and mine added together will dictate what our future and that of our children will be. Vote wisely! Our future depends upon it!


"People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote—a very different thing."
—Walter H. Judd, US Congressman, 1898-1994
Please vote #4 Juan Pan T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho for Governor and Lt. Governor on November 7, 2009.
JUAN PAN TENORIO GUERRERO
&
JOSEPH NORITA CAMACHO
EXPERIENCE • HARD WORK • SOLUTIONS
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Juan Pan and Joe Camacho

Prize not exactly as shown.

WIN A THANKSGIVING FEAST

Enter to win a Thanksgiving feast for you and your family! Get an entry form with a $15 purchase of fuel and C-Store items combined, at any Shell station. One prize package to be given away at each Shell station. No purchase necessary. See store for details.

Prize includes:
Turkey (12-14 lb.)
Picnic Ham (8-10 lb.)
Stuffing (4 lb.)
Mashed Potato (4 lb.)
Gravy (2 lb.)
Pumpkin Pie (2)

made to move

Letter to the Editor

Caution on legislative initiatives

With elections only five days away, and no additional information available about the three legislative initiatives proposing constitutional amendments that will be on the ballot—except the one notice that has appeared in the papers—I would urge voters to exercise extreme caution in voting on any of them. The fourth question on the ballot—re Open Government—does not propose an amendment to the Constitution, but an amendment to a law, and has been under review and discussion for more than two years, so is already "ripe," as they say, for action without the need for further information.

Changes to the CNMI Constitution, which serves as the backbone to the government structure, should not be made so carelessly, with so little information.

The full text of the proposed amendments to the CNMI Constitution has not appeared in the newspaper, nor does it appear on the Election Commission Web site. Its Web site, www.votecnmi.gov.mp/, does include brief—but very simplistic—pro and con statements for three of the initiatives, but this information is not available to those without access to the Web site. Nor is there is any way to compare what is in the Constitution now with what would be in it if the amendments pass. There has been no discussion, no debate, no in-depth pro- and con- information available to the voting public.

House Legislative Initiative 16-11, for example, would amend Article III, Section 9 (a) to prohibit withdrawal of funds from the General Fund except by legislative appropriation. While the Commission Web site provides information on the three other questions to be on the ballot, this one is not listed. This seems to be due to the confusion created by the fact that there are two legislative initiatives numbered 16-11—one from the House and one from the Senate.

So here is a constitutional amendment regarding the General Fund, and the only information is what was printed in the paper. No statement of pros and cons—however weak—and no text of the proposed amendment.

What's more, what the actual amendment says would appear unrealistic. (I managed to get a copy of two of the proposed constitutional amendments.) It would suspend the governor's salary if s/he does not submit a budget by April 1 of each year, until a detailed and balanced budget is submitted. If the legislators don't pass the budget by October 1st, it would suspend the legislators' salary until they pass a balanced budget. Those hardly seem enforceable, nor does it seem likely that either one would actually be enforced.

The actual text of the amendment also provides that if a balanced budget has not passed before the beginning of the new fiscal year, no money shall be drawn from the General Fund—except that services essential to health, safety and welfare of the people will be continued. However, it provides absolutely no guidance as to how that is supposed to happen, making it just as unrealistic as the other parts of this proposed amendment.

House Legislative Initiative 15-3, which amends the constitutional provision (Article XV, Section 1(c)) regarding the composition of the Board of Education, includes a section about funding for PSS that appears to be identical to what is already in the Constitution. The Constitution provides that PSS be guaranteed an annual budget of not less than 15 percent of the general revenues of the CNMI. What's been added are the words "through an annual appropriation." The amendment would also limit elected board members to two terms.

This initiative would also provide that the non-voting student representative to the Board be a high school student. The present Constitution requires only that the student be from the public schools but does not specify that it be a high school student. It does not seem to address the existing requirement that one non-voting member of the Board represent non-public schools. But without the full text available, one can't be certain. (In fact, the actual amendment does not address this issue.)

This initiative, in addition, would provide that the non-voting Department of Education representative be a teacher, as opposed to an administrator or a principal. The existing requirement is that it be a teacher elected by an "exclusive bargaining representative of the teachers," which apparently is done away with in the proposed initiative. Is any process provided for determining who the teacher would be? Without the full text, there is no way of knowing. And not to muddy the waters, but what about principals? Don't they get any representation?

In fact, the actual amendment states that "The selection process of a public school teacher representative shall be established by law."

One might question why it is necessary to spell out in the Constitution the requirements for non-voting members of the Board at all. Why not just leave this to the Legislature as well?

Senate Legislative Initiative 16-11 would amend Article VII, Section 1, to require that regular general elections be held only on even-numbered years, in order to coincide with Federal elections, now that the CNMI has a non-voting delegate in the U.S. Congress. According to its provisions, all officials elected in the '09 election would get to serve an extra year, and the '11 elections would not be held. However, the explanation of the amendment issued by the Election Commission states that the amendment would affect the "length of terms of the individuals that are voted into office in this 2009 election "*and during the next midterm election*" (emphasis added). What that means is totally unclear, and again, without the full text of the proposed amendment, there is no way to know.

Moreover, there is another alternative that could have been proposed, and that should have been far more widely discussed: shortening, rather than lengthening, everyone's term by a year. As was mentioned in the discussion in the Legislature, if the incumbent was doing a good job, s/he would have no worries about getting re-elected, and if s/he wasn't, the CNMI would be saved from a full additional year of his/her incompetence.

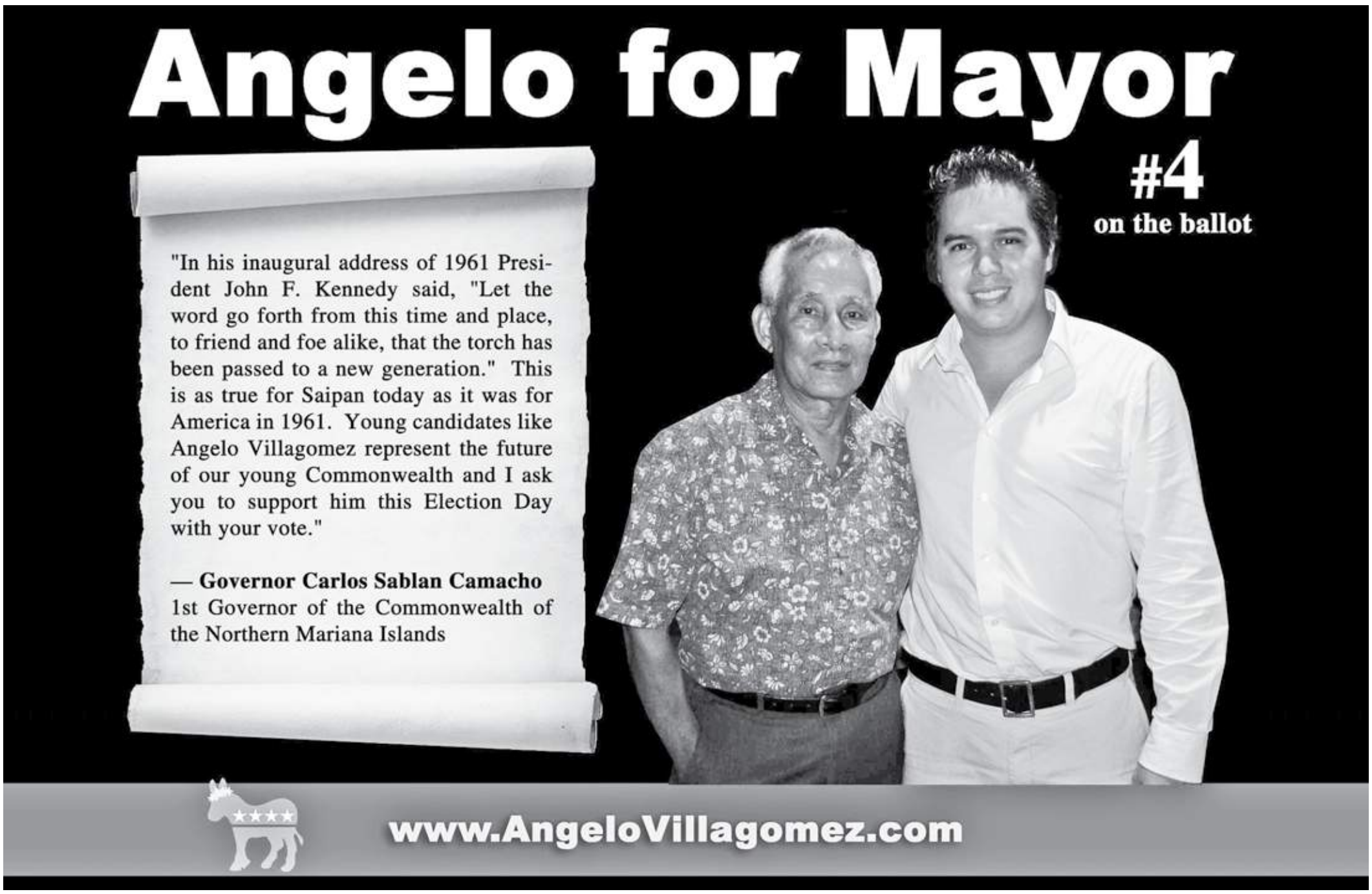
But the constitutional amendment does not offer this alternative. Instead, the Legislature has self-servingly picked the option of extending terms of office without providing the public with the opportunity to voice its opinion on the matter. As it stands, the public has no choice but to approve the extended terms, or vote the amendment down, and have elections again in 2011 for the CNMI and in 2012 for the non-voting delegate. Better to withdraw this amendment, and send it back out to the public for more discussion.

Unfortunately, the ballots have already been printed. And the initiative questions thus are already on the ballot. So they can hardly be withdrawn. However, the Election Commission could issue a ruling that only the votes on the popular initiative would be counted, and that the votes on the three legislative initiatives would not. That might preserve the initiatives so that they could be proposed again in the 2011 mid-term election.

If the amendments are all voted down, the Legislature would be required to go through the process all over again, from the beginning, and get the required approval from three-fourths of the members of both houses. Of course, that might be just as well, since the amendments do seem to require some re-writing in any case.

And if the amendments are passed, who knows what the unintended consequences might be.

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan


Angelo for Mayor
#4
on the ballot
"In his inaugural address of 1961 President John F. Kennedy said, "Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation." This is as true for Saipan today as it was for America in 1961. Young candidates like Angelo Villagomez represent the future of our young Commonwealth and I ask you to support him this Election Day with your vote."
— Governor Carlos Sablan Camacho
1st Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
www.AngeloVillagomez.com

Business

New team, revamped menu at Hard Rock

Hard Rock Café Saipan introduced its new management team and launched its revamped menu in a simple cocktail event Thursday night.

The new management team of the rock 'n roll-themed restaurant is led by Hard Rock Saipan operations manager Reynaldo Perez, restaurant manager Anna Rose Ching, restaurant supervisors Danny Yuso, Mikka Valencia, and Mylyn Juni, and sales and marketing coordinators Noriko Watanabe and Midori Obi.

Perez joins the Saipan team from the Philippines and Middle East and has an extensive background in international casual dining.

Perez and company will report directly to newly appointed Hard Rock Saipan and Guam director of operations Remko Engelman.

Engelman has built his experience with Asian guests over the last 14 years working in China, Hong Kong, Japan, Guam, and Korea. His experience with TGI Friday's as director of operations for Asia and his previous seven years in Guam will help him lead the new team.

Sales and marketing, business development vice president Hiromichi Takamatsu and longtime executive chef Kotwal Singh make up the rest of the Saipan and Guam management team.

ROSELYN MONROYO

Newly appointed Hard Rock Saipan and Guam director of operations Remko Engelman joins the staff for a photo call during a simple cocktail event Thursday night.

Upbeat about Saipan

Engelman remains upbeat about the Saipan market despite the uncertainly brought about by impending federalization and slow sales that has been a result of the bearish economy and down tourism numbers.

"Regardless of the current economic conditions at Hard Rock Café we are driving value this year," he said. "With our new management team we plan to make Hard Rock Café more accessible to our guests again with fun new food, improved service plans, and crazy new drinks."

New dishes

Engelman said Hard Rock Saipan's menu will be a combination of "innovatively new and the tried-and-true existing favorites."

While the restaurant's legendary Angus burgers remain in the menu, Singh has added sure-fire hits in waiting like Hawaiian Chicken, which is bone in half chicken, marinated with soy sauce and topped with pineapple.

"A local favorite, the Chamorro Cheese Burger is also a good example of the new direction at Hard Rock Café, where we want to share some local flavors with our guests on Saipan," said chef Singh.

Nicknamed "Boonie Burger," chef Singh's new creation is a spicy burger topped with pepper Jack cheese.

"This is just some of the new exciting new flavors Hard Rock Café is bringing to Saipan this month," said chef Singh.

Expanded beverage selection

Hard Rock Café Saipan is also expanding its drink selection with some fun and exciting new rock 'n roll cocktails.

Perez said signature drinks such as the "Backstage Pass," "Riders on the Storm," and the "Fruitapalooza" are clear reminders of the restaurant's rock 'n roll roots and its new beverage line only hopes to follow in their footsteps.

"Next to the rock 'n roll-driven drinks, Hard Rock Café has really pushed the envelope on quality with the new margarita line. No shortcuts here, just pure quality. For example, the 'Triple Platinum Margarita' is served with top-of-the-line Patron Tequila. Legendary rock star Sammy Hagar, best known for his work with the band Van Halen, has also been involved with the 'Cabo Wabo.' This quality tequila forms the base of our 'Waborita' margarita," he said.

Hard Rock Café Saipan will also be introducing non-alcoholic drinks, according to Perez, with names likes "Mango Tango" or the "Groupie Grind," made with mango, pineapple, coconut, and strawberries served in a souvenir Hard Rock Café Guam glass.

"We continue to make our restaurant accessible and fun for all ages as we enjoy seeing families eat together, have a fun cocktail, and take in the entertaining environment," said Perez.

'The Guitarman' plays

Hard Rock Café is also about entertainment and that's why the Saipan outlet will continue its "Live on Stage" program with musical performances by Jerry "The Guitarman" Alcantara.

"We will continue to work on our entertainment as we wish to be true to the brand and deliver authentic experiences that rock! Look for more entertainment coming to Hard Rock Café Saipan in the near future," said Engelman. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

LaoLao Bay
GOLF RESORT
SAIPAN
CLUB AT THE HYATT
GOLF CLASSIC
2009
HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN
November 14, 2009
Proceeds to benefit:
MAKE-A-WISH.
FAX REGISTRATION FORM
Attn.: Yulia, Margaret or Nikki at Club at the Hyatt, Fax (670) 234-7745
Golfer Name:
Handicap:
Tel:
Fax:
Email:
Cash: Credit card:
Credit card #:
Expiration:
Signature:
* Players may register individually or establish their own team
Requested team mate(s)
REGISTRATION FEE:
$95.00 Club Elan or Club at the Hyatt member
$110.00 Non member player
Applicants must be pre-paid
by November 11, 2009
LaoLao Bay Golf Resort
REGISTRATION: 6:30am - 7:25am
SHOTGUN START: 7:30am
- 4 person scramble
- Double peoria handicap system
- Hole-in-one prizes
- Fun & exciting games are planned for most holes
- Multiple prizes to be won
DINNER BANQUET:
Hyatt Regency Saipan's poolside
Banquet only guest $35.00 per person
Interested tournament sponsors and players may contact Yulia Camacho, Club at the Hyatt at 323-5870/ fax 234-7745/ email: cath@hyattsaipan.com or Robin Eugenio, Club Elan at 323-5827/ email: robin.eugenio@hyattsaipan.com
* Payment can be made at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Front Desk *

Nation

Calif. searchers scour seas 2 days after air crash

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Crews will search the Pacific's chilly waters overnight for nine people lost two days ago when a Marine Corps helicopter and a U.S. Coast Guard plane crashed in midair, though hope of finding survivors fades with each hour, a top Coast Guard commander said Saturday.

Rear Adm. Joseph Castillo said at a late afternoon news conference that there was still a chance of survivors among the seven military personnel aboard the Coast Guard C-130 and the two in the Marine Corps AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter despite water temps in the low 60s because all had access to heat-retaining drysuits and were in excellent physical shape.

A Pentagon official said a day earlier that the crash likely killed all aboard. But Castillo said the search was ongoing. "We don't ever want to suspend the case prematurely, when there may be someone out there. ... But hope gets less every day. My hope today is not what it was yesterday."

AP

U.S. Coast Guard pilots taxi in a MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter before taking off during a search mission at the San Diego Coast Guard Station Friday, Oct. 30, 2009 in San Diego.

The two aircraft collided at 7:10 p.m. Thursday as the Coast Guard was conducting a search operation for a missing boater. The Marine helicopter was flying in formation with another Cobra escort helicopter and two large troops transports en route to San Clemente Island, 50 miles off the coast, for a nighttime training exercise.

Families of the missing said they were grateful rescuers weren't giving up.

Jennifer Wiegandt Seidman she said holds out hope that her husband, Chief Petty Officer John Seidman, has managed to survive. Seidman is a flight engineer with a 23-year career in the Coast Guard.

"I don't want to let my mind go to thinking the worst," she said from the couple's home in Carmichael, Calif. "John knows what he's doing, and he's fit and he's very smart. They're saying that they're still looking."

The Seidmans married in 2001 and Seidman, 43, is stepfather to her three children, aged 10, 12 and 13, she said.

A search was also continuing Saturday for the missing boater, David Jines, Castillo said. Jines, 50, was reported missing by a friend and was last seen in a 12-foot motorized skiff.

Six Coast Guard cutters and three helicopters hunted for any survivors of the midair collision. Crews scanning a 644-square-mile patch of ocean in waters about 2,000 feet deep found debris from both aircraft, but there was no sign of the crew members or their bodies.

Coroner: 6 bodies found at home; Ohioan arrested

CLEVELAND (AP)—A convicted rapist who fled before police arrived to arrest him on new rape charges was arrested Saturday in his inner-city neighborhood after police found six decomposing bodies at his home.

Police spokesman Lt. Thomas Stacho said Anthony Sowell was walking down the street on the east side of Cleveland when authorities spotted him and took him into custody.

Sowell initially denied he was the man authorities were looking for but admitted his identity as officers began fingerprinting him, Stacho said. Charges against him are pending.

Officers initially identified three bodies at Sowell's home, Stacho said. Powell Caesar, a spokesman for the Cuyahoga County coroner's office, said additional remains were found and confirmed Saturday as three more bodies, for a total of six.

As of Saturday, autopsies had been performed on all six bodies but no cause of death or names were announced. Two autopsies were done Friday.

The first two bodies were found Thursday night when police went to Sowell's home to arrest him on charges of felonious assault and rape. Police say he had spent 15 years in prison for a 1989 rape.

Cuyahoga County Coroner Frank Miller identified two bodies as black females and said one had died of a violent death ruled a homicide. No race or gender was determined for the others.

Police established a command post in the neighborhood to take missing-person reports and additional information on outstanding missing persons in the neighborhood.

Girl shot dead after Calif. school football game

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Police were searching Saturday for a person who shot and killed a 16-year-old girl and wounded two men when firing into a crowd following a football game at a high school in Southern California.

The girl, a student at Woodrow Wilson High School, died at a hospital. It was unclear what led to Friday night's shooting at the school in Long Beach, police Sgt. Dina Zapalski said.

Gunfire erupted around 10 p.m., as several hundred people filed out of the homecoming game against arch-rival Polytechnic High School.

Family members identified the girl as Melody Ross. City Councilman Gary DeLong described Ross as "an innocent bystander who was not involved" in the altercation.

Ross was an honor student and track athlete who was dressed as Supergirl for the Halloween eve game, friends and school officials said.

"It's very disconcerting. I'm sick to my stomach when something like that happens and you have an innocent kid involved," Wilson football coach Mario Morales. He said he heard between five and seven shots as he was leaving the stadium after his team's loss.

A school dance with about 200 students had begun when the shots were fired. The dance was locked down while police searched the campus for suspects, said Long Beach Unified School District spokesman Chris Eftychiou. Eftychiou said extra security was on hand for the rivalry game but police told school authorities there was no indication the shooting had anything to do with bad blood between the schools.

No trick: 2,000 kids knock on White House door

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama on Saturday doled out presidential M&Ms and dried fruit mixes to more than 2,000 trick-or-treaters, marking their Halloween at a White House event partly aimed at honoring military families.

Dressed as superheroes, pirates, fairies and skeletons, the kids came in with their parents from Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C., and lined up on the orange-lit White House driveway.

Standing outside the White House front door, the Obamas smiled, chatted and passed out cellophane goody bags that were also filled with a sweet dough butter cookie made by White House pastry chef Bill Yosses. Kids also received a National Park Foundation Ranger activity book.

Mrs. Obama wore furry cat ears and a leopard-patterned top. Obama said the kids looked adorable, as well as his wife, "a very nice looking Catwoman."

A big, stuffed, black spider dangled in a web of string from the top of the portico, and pumpkins had sprouted up around the columns.

AP

President Barack Obama talks to a children as he hands out Halloween treats in the East Room of the White House, Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009 in Washington.

ACROSS THE NATION

Arrest made in fire at NYC chapel for 9/11 victims

NEW YORK (AP)—A man was arrested Saturday on suspicion of setting a small fire at the temporary home for the remains of thousands of World Trade Center victims, police said. Police announced the arrest nearly 12 hours after the fire, which was set following a break-in. Charges against the 26-year-old were pending, police said. The smoldering flames in a section of the facility's chapel on Manhattan's East Side were quickly extinguished. Firefighters got a call at about 9 a.m. to respond to Memorial Park, a weatherproof tent on Manhattan's East Side where the city is storing the remains of 9/11 victims who have yet to be identified.

NH hunter shot while using rope to hoist rifle

OSSIPEE, N.H. (AP)—A New Hampshire deer hunter has accidentally shot himself in the right hand while trying to lift his loaded rifle into a tree stand using a rope tied around the weapon. A state conservation officer says a branch or stick apparently got stuck in the trigger of Robert Lapointe's .50-caliber muzzleloader, setting it off at around 1:45 p.m. Saturday. Mark Hensel of the state Fish and Game Department says the 63-year-old from Somersworth was hunting in Ossipee (AH'-sih-pee) on the first day of muzzleloader deer season. Hensel says Lapointe has been taken to Maine Medical Center in Portland. A nursing supervisor there says he's being evaluated.

Slain NJ priest remembered for quiet wisdom

CHATHAM, N.J. (AP)—A Roman Catholic priest who was stabbed to death in his rectory was remembered Saturday as a "quiet voice of peaceful love" at his burial Mass in northern New Jersey. More than 1,000 people filled St. Patrick Church and its gymnasium to honor the Rev. Edward J. Hinds, who was found dead on the kitchen floor after he failed to appear for morning Mass Oct. 23. Authorities say he had been stabbed 32 times the day before by church custodian Jose Feliciano. The crowd included about 200 area priests and nuns. Clergy in flowing white robes formed a half-circle around the hearse as Hinds' coffin was carried down the church stairs and placed inside.

Ariz. jails Iraqi driver after daughter run down

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP)—An Iraqi immigrant accused of running down his daughter with his car because she was becoming "too Westernized" was returned to Arizona Saturday to face aggravated assault charges. Faleh Almaleki was arrested Thursday when he arrived at Atlanta's airport, sent from the United Kingdom after authorities denied him entrance. He was returned to the Phoenix-area city of Peoria, booked and taken to a county jail. He is accused of striking and then running over his 20-year-old daughter and her boyfriend's mother with his Jeep on Oct. 20 as the women were walking across a Peoria parking lot. Noor Almaleki remains hospitalized in serious condition after undergoing spinal surgery. The other woman, Amal Khalaf, is in serious but stable condition, according to family members.

Coast Guard finds body of pilot of missing plane

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP)—The Navy says it is not identifying a training pilot whose body was found after a plane disappeared off the Texas coast until a search for the other missing pilot is completed. Coast Guard searchers found the body Friday of one pilot 11 miles northeast of Port Aransas. Lt. Brett Dawson, spokesman for Chief of Naval Air Training, says the family of the man who was found has been notified. For privacy reasons, the Navy hasn't identified him. The search continued Saturday for a second pilot who was aboard when the training plane went missing Wednesday. The Navy had said earlier that 29-year-old Lt. John Joseph Houston, of Houston and 30-year-old Lt. Bret Travis Miller of East Troy, Wis., were on board the Navy T-34C Turbomentor training plane.

Asia

4th typhoon in month lashes Philippines; 14 killed

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A typhoon has battered the Philippine capital and surrounding provinces still reeling from recent flooding, killing at least 14 people and sending residents of one town clambering onto rooftops to escape rising waters, officials said Sunday.

Typhoon Mirinae was the fourth storm to lash the northern Philippines since late September and brought new hardship to areas still struggling in the wake of the previous disasters. Nearly 95,000 people who fled during two prior storms were still living in temporary shelters when Mirinae struck Saturday, the national disaster agency said.

The storm headed out to sea and was swirling 279 miles (450 kilometers) southwest of Manila early Sunday but could still bring rains and thunderstorms to western Palawan province, forecasters said. The storm was over the South China Sea and appeared to be heading toward Vietnam, they said.

As Mirinae slammed into Quezon province northeast of Manila around midnight Friday, Philippine authorities evacuated more than 115,000 people in nine provinces east and south of the capital in the storm's path on main Luzon island, the National Disaster Coordinating Council reported. At its height, its winds were blowing 93 miles (150 kilometers) per hour and gusting up to 115 mph (185 kph).

One river in Laguna province, south of Manila, overflowed, washing away a bridge and flooding most of lakeside Santa Cruz town. Residents clambered onto roofs to escape the waters, said Mayor Ariel Magcalas.

"We cannot move, this is no joke. The water is high. We need help," Magcalas said in a public address on Radio DZBB early Saturday.

The muddy floodwater receded as rains eased later in the day, but was still chest-high in some communities.

In Manila, residents hunkered down in their homes overnight as rains beat down on dark, deserted streets. Mirinae passed south of the city of 12 million. The sprawling metropolis saw its worst flooding in 40 years in late September when Tropical Storm Ketsana hit the capital and nearby provinces.

AP

Residents wade through floodwaters brought about by typhoon Mirinae Saturday Oct. 31, 2009 at Santa Cruz township, Laguna province south of Manila, Philippines.

Kidnappers demand $2 million for Irish hostage

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Captors of a 79-year old Irish missionary kidnapped in the southern Philippines have released a video in which the priest says his abductors are demanding $2 million to release him.

The video was obtained by government negotiators and broadcast on GMA television network in Manila Saturday. It shows Rev. Michael Sinnott holding a copy of the Oct. 22 issue of the Philippine Daily Inquirer newspaper. That was 11 days after his abduction.

Sinnott appeals in a weak voice to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, the Irish government, his fellow missionaries and friends "who may have pity ... to help so that I can get out of here as soon as possible."

Gunmen seized Sinnott in southern Pagadian city in Zamboanga del Sur province on Oct. 11 in the latest hostage crisis to grip this predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

It remains unclear who is holding Sinnott. The volatile south has grappled with decades of Muslim separatist unrest, and militants have conducted kidnappings in the past but have denied involvement in Sinnott's abduction.

Allan Molde, spokesman for the provincial Crisis Management Committee handling the hostage crisis, said the video was handed to a law enforcer on the committee by one of its operatives Saturday.

Molde said he recognized Sinnott on the video.

"He's well, he's OK, but you can see the sadness in his face," Molde said by telephone from Pagadian.

He said it appeared that Sinnott, who has grown some facial hair, was reading from something that was handed to him.

The GMA TV report says Sinnott identified the leader of the group that kidnapped him as Abu Jamdal, but Molde said he wasn't familiar with the person.

The video was taken outdoors, and a piece of tablecloth or bedsheet was placed behind Sinnott as a background. No other person was shown but one hand could be seen helping Sinnott hold up the newspaper.

Afghan official: 8 linked to UN attack arrested

KABUL (AP)—Authorities have arrested eight people, including one in Saudi Arabia, in connection with this week's deadly attack on a guest house used by United Nations employees, the Afghan intelligence chief said Saturday. He said those arrested claimed the assailants came from Pakistan's Swat Valley.

Amrullah Saleh also told reporters that Afghan intelligence had advance information that a Taliban attack in Kabul was in the works but was expected during rush hour. Instead, the attackers struck just before dawn Wednesday, killing eight people—five of them United Nations foreign staffers. The three assailants also died.

Saleh's comments are likely to intensify criticism of the security provided to employees of the world body working in Afghanistan. The United Nations has already said that it took too long for Afghan police and NATO troops to respond to the attack.

Saleh said the eight men taken into custody in connection with the assault included an imam who provided a hideout for the assailants before the attack. He did not elaborate on what role the other seven may have played.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Abdullah plans runoff boycott to delay Afghan vote

KABUL (AP)—President Hamid Karzai's challenger plans to call for a boycott of next weekend's runoff election in an attempt to force the vote's postponement until spring, his campaign manager said—a move that would dim U.S. hopes for a stable Afghan government for months. Karzai rejected Abdullah Abdullah's conditions for next Saturday's vote, including removing top election officials whom the challenger accused of involvement in cheating in the first-round balloting in August. Abdullah has called a press conference for 10 a.m. Sunday to announce his final decision after Afghans and Westerners close to the challenger said he would withdraw.

Myanmar's Suu Kyi supports US policy of engagement

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi is aware of an upcoming visit by two American officials and supports the new U.S. policy of engaging with Myanmar's military rulers, her lawyer said Saturday. Myanmar, meanwhile, has arrested about a dozen local journalists and documentary filmmakers over the past two weeks, relatives of those detained said Saturday, asking not to be identified for fear of retribution. Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and a deputy will be in Myanmar, also known as Burma, for a two-day visit beginning Tuesday and are scheduled to meet with the government and the opposition, including Suu Kyi.

Pakistan says soldiers close in on Taliban bases

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistani soldiers closed in on two major Taliban strongholds in South Waziristan on Saturday, officials said, as government jets pounded insurgent hide-outs and the prime minister said the country had no choice but to defeat the militants. "We are at war," Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani told a press conference in the city of Peshawar, where a militant car bombing a few days ago killed more than 115 people. "Our civil leadership, our military leadership and political leadership ... we are on the same page that we have to fight the militancy. We do not have any other option because their intentions are to take over" the country.

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

United States District Court
for the
Northern Mariana Islands

The United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands wishes to inform prospective applicants that Vacancy Announcement No. 09-02 for *"Clerk of Court / Part-Time Magistrate Judge"* has been **CANCELLED** due to changed circumstances.

Any applications received will be returned to the applicant unopened.

Thank you for your understanding.

World

Mexican farm leader, 14 others killed

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The leader of a Mexican farmworkers' organization and 14 other people were killed in a mass shooting in the northern Mexico state of Sonora, an official said Saturday.

Sonora prosecutors' spokesman Jose Larrinaga said the victims include farm leader Margarito Montes, 10 other men, one woman and three minors. Most were believed to be Montes' relatives or employees.

Larrinaga said the victims' bullet-ridden bodies were found on a roadside near a farm Friday. The killers apparently used assault rifles, the sort of weapon favored by Mexico's drug gangs, but Larrinaga said the motive in the attack was still under investigation.

The killings occurred in a rural area of the state, near the border with Sinaloa, the home state of some the country's most powerful drug lords.

Montes was the leader of the General Popular Union of Workers and Farmers, which claims tens of thousands of members, mostly in southern Mexico. Local news media reported that Montes had led peasant and squatters' movements involved in land seizures and that his group has sometimes had violent clashes with rival claimants to land.

Montes' group is an affiliate of the nationwide Permanent Agrarian Congress, which said Montes was ambushed by a gang of gunmen near his home.

It issued a statement calling his killing "a cowardly assassination," and suggested it could have been related to land disputes.

The group said it "regrets .... that in the 21st-century, land disputes are still being settled with gunfire" and demanded authorities catch and punish the killers.

In the southern state of Guerrero on Saturday, state police reported assailants tossed two grenades at a police guard station at a toll booth in the resort of Acapulco.

Assailants also fired assault rifles and tossed two grenades at a police station in the nearby town of Tecpan de Galeana. Some damage but no injuries were reported in the attacks.

State police also reported finding nine banners strung up in towns along the coast near Acapulco with messages relating to organized crime gangs. The police statement did not provide the text of the messages, but drug cartels frequently use such banners to threaten rivals or claim credit for killings.

The attacks came at the start of what is expected to be a busy three-day weekend for the resort, with tourists taking advantage of Mexico's Day of the Dead holiday.

Vatican to decide each case of Anglican priests

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Vatican said Saturday that married Anglican priests will be admitted to the Catholic priesthood on a case-by-case basis as Rome makes it easier for disillusioned conservative Anglicans to convert.

A surprise Vatican decision, announced 10 days earlier to make it easier for Anglicans to become Roman Catholics while retaining aspects of Anglican liturgy and identity, had left some wondering whether Rome would embrace married Anglican clergy in large numbers.

A Holy See statement Saturday quoted Cardinal William Levada, the Holy See's guardian of doctrinal correctness, as saying the Vatican would consider accepting married Anglican priests into the Roman Catholic priesthood as it has in the past—evaluating each case on its own merits.

The Roman Catholic church requires its priests to be celibate, except in the case of the Eastern rite Catholics, who are allowed to be ordained if married. But over the last decades, it has also quietly allowed married Anglican clergy to stay priests when converting to Catholicism.

In no case could a married man become a bishop, and the new rules would exclude any married Anglican bishop from retaining that post.

Largest cruise ship passes bridge challenge

KORSOER, Denmark (AP)—The world's largest cruise ship cleared a crucial obstacle Sunday, lowering its smokestacks to squeeze under a bridge in Denmark.

The Oasis of the Seas—which rises about 20 stories high—passed below the Great Belt Fixed Link with a slim margin as it left the Baltic Sea on its maiden voyage to Florida.

Bridge operators said that even after lowering its telescopic smokestacks the giant ship had less than a 2-foot (half-meter) gap.

Hundreds of people gathered on beaches at both ends of the bridge, waiting for hours to watch the brightly lit behemoth sail by shortly after midnight (2300GMT; 7 p.m. EDT).

"It was fantastic to see it glide under the bridge. Boy, it was big," said Kurt Hal, 56.

AP

This Oct. 30, 2009 photo released by Royal Caribbean shows Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas departing a ship yard in Finland.

Company officials are banking that its novelty will help guarantee its success. Five times larger than the Titanic, the $1.5 billion ship has seven neighborhoods, an ice rink, a small golf course and a 750-seat outdoor amphitheater. It has 2,700 cabins and can accommodate 6,300 passengers and 2,100 crew members.

Accommodations include loft cabins, with floor-to-ceiling windows, and 1,600-square-foot (487-meter) luxury suites with balconies overlooking the sea or promenades.

The liner also has four swimming pools, volleyball and basketball courts, and a youth zone with theme parks and nurseries for children.

Oasis of the Sea, nearly 40 percent larger than the industry's next-biggest ship, was conceived years before the economic downturn caused desperate cruise lines to slash prices to fill vacant berths.

It was built by STX Finland for Royal Caribbean International and left the shipyard in Finland on Friday. Officials hadn't expected any problems in passing the Great Belt bridge, but traffic was stopped for about 15 minutes as a precaution when the ship approached, Danish navy spokesman Joergen Brand said.

WORLD BRIEFS

UK to shake up banking, 100s of branches for sale

LONDON (AP)—The Royal Bank of Scotland, Northern Rock, and Lloyds Banking Group are to sell off as many as 700 branches in the next few years in exchange for the public aid they received during the economic meltdown, a government official told The Associated Press on Saturday. The assets being put up for sale would be reserved for new entrants to the British banking market, effectively creating three new banks over the next five years or so, the official said. The official said that the banks were in negotiations with Britain's treasury and European regulators over how many assets they would have to give up in return for the help they received from taxpayers.

Clinton calls Israeli concessions 'unprecedented'

JERUSALEM (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Saturday that Israel is making "unprecedented" concessions on West Bank settlement construction—a position clearly at odds with the prevailing Palestinian view. Palestinian leaders have said they will not return to peace talks with Israel unless it halts all settlement building on lands they claim for a future state, and they believe Israel has blatantly defied a U.S. demand for a settlement freeze. Speaking at a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday, Clinton said Israel is putting significant limits on settlement activity.

Iran vows reprisals after bombing kills dozens

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran vowed retaliation Monday after accusing Pakistan, the U.S. and Britain of aiding Sunni militants who stunned the Islamic regime with a suicide bombing that killed top Revolutionary Guard commanders and dozens of others. A commentary by the official news agency called on Iranian security forces "to seriously deal with Pakistan once and for all." And President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told his Pakistani counterpart that his nation must hunt down suspected members of Jundallah, or Soldiers of God. "The presence of terrorist elements in Pakistan is not justifiable and the Pakistani government needs to help arrest and punish the criminals as soon as possible," state TV quoted Ahmadinejad as telling President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday.

Honduran Congress to review crisis accord Tuesday

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Lawmakers will wait until Tuesday to consider a U.S.-brokered agreement that could return deposed President Manuel Zelaya to power, despite diplomats' pleas to not delay an end to the country's 4-month-old political crisis. Monday is a holiday in Honduras, and many legislators are busy campaigning for Nov. 29 elections that will also elect a successor to Zelaya. Nonetheless, Zelaya said Saturday that he hopes he will be back in office by Thursday, the deadline for the two sides to establish a power-sharing government.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE
October 21, 2009

PORT OF SAIPAN PARKING

This is to inform the general public that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) installed a new system for the parking facilities at the Port of Saipan. The new system, which will begin operating on November 01, 2009, dispenses a plastic card upon entry and the card is returned when exiting. The system reads the elapsed time between entry and exit and indicates the appropriate charge.

The Port of Saipan will be given a grace period of ten (10) minutes. A fee of $1.00 will be charged when the elapsed time between entry and exit exceeds ten (10) minutes for the first hour and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour.

The parking fee for the first hour is one dollar and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour. The total charge for each 24-hour period is $10.00.

A customer who loses a parking card will be charged $10.00 for the lost card and will also be charged the appropriate parking fee for the time parked. The customer with the lost parking card may be required to park on the side to allow other customers to exit first and then give time for the parking booth attendant to check the system to resolve the matter.

A customer with a valid Handicap Placard will not be charged any parking fee as long as the handicap person who was issued the placard is present in the vehicle. All customers with a valid Handicap Placard should call the Port of Saipan administration division for further details.

All customers with parking permits, bus permits, and taxi permits should go to the Port of Saipan Admin office (2nd floor of Captain George F. Fleming Building) to exchange their current permit to a parking card.

All parking fees are non-refundable.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Louisa Yamada-Garon at (670) 664-3550.

/s/ EDWARD B. MENDIOLA
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PSS HEAD START PROGRAM
P.O. Box 501370
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-3751 Fax: (670) 664-3760

Head Start Training-Office Closure for One Week

The entire staff of the CNMI Public School System's Head Start Program will be in training from November 2-6, 2009 (Monday-Friday). Therefore, there will be no classes and all offices will be closed. Normal operations will resume the following week on November 9, 2009 (Monday).

Health & Fitness

Is stretching before a workout beneficial, or is that a reach?

By LENNY BERNSTEIN
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Research and anecdotal information attribute many benefits to stretching: reduced muscle tension, improved circulation, pain reduction and management.

It's been a long, hard day at the office, and you need a good workout to blow off all that stress. But before you hit the free weights, the stationary bike or the elliptical machine, you spend 10 minutes carefully stretching all those stiff muscles, just as every coach, trainer and physical therapist has advised for as long as you can remember.

The question is why.

There's no evidence that you'll prevent injury. In fact, some people believe you're more likely to cause one.

You won't stave off muscle soreness.

You won't perform better, except possibly if you're going to do gymnastics or ice-skate. There's some reason to believe you'll do worse than if you hadn't stretched.

"There is not sufficient evidence to endorse or discontinue routine stretching before or after exercise to prevent injury among competitive or recreational athletes," concluded the National Center for Injury Prevention Control, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in a 2004 study that may be the most thorough look at the research on stretching.

Before you go out and tear a cold hamstring, let's back up. Research and anecdotal information attribute many benefits to stretching: reduced muscle tension, improved circulation, pain reduction and management. Perhaps most important, stretching helps us maintain range of motion as we age, allowing older people to continue with the activities of daily living.

The question is whether "static stretching" — the most common type, which involves holding a muscle in one position for a defined period of time — has been misinterpreted, or oversold, as a preventive for what ails you.

"People believe all kinds of amazing things, and it changes every 10 or 15 years," said William Meller, a physician and associate professor of evolutionary medicine at the University of California at Santa Barbara, who sees even less value in stretching than the CDC does. The merits of stretching are "not based on any science. It's based on word of mouth. It's spread by coaches, spread by trainers, (by) all kinds of different people who have an interest in pretending to be experts."

According to Julie Gilchrist, a medical epidemiologist who helped conduct the CDC study, "it's probably important that we maintain some norm of flexibility throughout our life spans, but I don't think anyone has really defined what that (norm) is.

"Our belief is there are probably people who would benefit from stretching. But then the question is who should stretch, when to stretch," how much to stretch and, most important, what benefits can be expected.

There was no argument about those benefits recently in a darkened dance studio at the D.C. Jewish Community Center, where instructor Lisa Glassman led 13 people in their 50s, 60s and 70s through an hour-long stretching and strengthening class.

Harvey Block, 78, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, said stretching helps with his balance. Sally Berk, 64, said daily stretching relieves some symptoms of her fibromyalgia, a chronic condition that produces widespread inflammation of muscles, ligaments and tendons. Joan McKinney, 76, said she hates aerobic exercise and stretching has cleared up her knee problems.

Even for the elderly, "we don't have the kinds of controlled intervention studies that we need to make a definitive statement about the benefits of doing flexibility exercises," said Chhanda Dutta, chief of the clinical gerontology branch at the National Institute on Aging. "We're not able to tell the elderly exactly the ways it can help them."

Similarly, coaches across the country wouldn't dream of putting athletes on a field, even for practice, without a battery of stretches that help them take the pounding and awkward landings of contact sports.

"As a coach, if I didn't do that and somebody got hurt, I would probably have a tough time sleeping at night," said Paul Foringer, the varsity boys' basketball and junior varsity football coach at a high school in Gaithersburg, Md.

Foringer's athletes do a light warm-up, then spend 15 to 20 minutes stretching before each practice. "The more flexible the athlete is, the less susceptible to injury he becomes," Foringer said. "It's kind of common sense. If you take something that's taut and tough and you yank it, you're going to tear it."

But that's not what studies show. "Stretching was not significantly associated with a reduction in total injuries," according to the CDC study, "and similar findings were seen in the subgroup analyses."

In static stretching, "you're taking the muscle to the point where it naturally wants to go, and then you're taking it a little bit farther," said Meller. That produces microscopic tears of muscle fibers and does nothing to prevent injury, he said. It also may weaken the muscle slightly, increase the possibility of injury and inhibit performance, according to him and the CDC study.

For those who want to stretch, it should be done after a warm-up or at the end of an exercise routine because warm muscles are more pliable.

Research indicates that warming up before exercise is more valuable than stretching. Specifically, Meller said, you should spend three to five minutes gently putting your body through the actions you're about to perform, slowly increasing the intensity. If you're going to play tennis, he said, swing forehands, backhands and serves, and run forward, backward and laterally before you hit the first ball.

The CDC reports that a warm-up that raises your heart rate and body temperature gets your blood flowing, nerves firing and metabolism increasing to improve performance and prevent injury.

ON THE NET

- Mayo Clinic: www.mayoclinic.com (search for "Stretching: Focus on flexibility")
- National Institute on Aging: www.nia.nih.gov (search for "Chapter 4: Sample Exercises - Flexibility")

> *Most important, stretching helps us maintain range of motion as we age, allowing older people to continue with the activities of daily living.*

New group fitness classes at Gold's Gym

In an effort to continually upgrade Gold's Gym's facilities and services, the company will introduce two new group fitness classes starting Nov. 1.

Gold's is adding a second Yoga Class on Monday evenings from 6:15pm to 7:15pm by Ashtanga yoga instructor Susan Book.

The long-awaited Spin Class will also begin on Monday.

"We are pleased to have Vicki Daniel, a guest spin instructor from Hilo, teaching extra classes on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (Nov. 3-5, 2009) for our opening week," said the company in a statement. Daniel will be holding sessions from 6pm to 7pm. Reservations are required due to the limited space upstairs.

Regular Spin Classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday from 6pm to 7pm and Saturday from 8:30am to 9:30am. Bring a water bottle and a bath-size towel.

Spin and Yoga classes are an additional $2 per class for members. For non-members, the $10/day pass allows for a full day's use of facilities and classes.

For information on membership or classes, call Gold's Gym at 233-4000. ***(PR)***

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

JUAN TAITANO FITIAL

Lovingly known as
"JOHN"
Was called to his eternal rest at the age of 62
August 20, 1947 – October 26, 2009

In his new life he now joins his:

Father: †Francisco Satur Fitial
Mother: †Angelina Mettao Taitano
Stepfather: †Lisua Taitano

His love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:

Wife: Wilaiporn C. Fitial
Daughter: Yolanda F. and Vincent SN. Muna (Lianalynn & Vinnaleen)

Brothers & Sisters:
Vicente T./†Cornelia Fitial & Family
Rafael T/Canridad I. Fitial & Family
William T./Ignacia Taitano
Ignacio T/Josepha Camacho
Cynthia Taitano & Family
Dolores T./Henry Kaipat & Family
Marianne T./Joe Kaipat & Family

Borthers & Sisters In-Law
William/Yaowapha C. Rabauliman & Family

Also survived by numerous Uncles, Aunties, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, and Friends.

Special thanks to CHC, Marianas Eye Institute and all the Dialysis friends.

Nightly rosary is being offered at William Taitano residence in Dandan at 7:30pm

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009 our beloved Juan will be escorted from CHC at 7:00am for viewing at the resident of William Taitano in DanDan. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am at Mount Carmel Cathedral, followed by internment service at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa.

Olomwaay, Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Thank You very much for your prayers

The Family

Life & Style

Winfrey, Clooney among first White House guests

WASHINGTON (AP)—Celebrities George Clooney and Oprah Winfrey and prominent lobbyists, corporate executives and Democratic fundraisers were among the first to score visits with President Barack Obama, his wife Michelle or top aides at the White House, newly released records show.

The White House late Friday afternoon posted a list of roughly 480 records in response to questions about whether specific people visited the president's home. It plans to start disclosing comprehensive visitor lists in coming months.

The records are a step toward making good on Obama's promise of transparency. But they also show that despite a campaign pledge to reduce special-interest influence on policymaking, lobbyists are getting face time with him and his aides.

The visits included in the records released Friday include roughly eight dozen with Obama.

AP

In this March 27, 2009, file photo Chief executives leave the White House in Washington following a with President Barack Obama. From left, Ronald E. Logue, Chief Executive Officer of State Street Corporation; Freddie Mac Chief Executive Officer John Koskinen; Rick Waddell, President and Chief executive officer Northern Trust; Banker's Association President and Chief Executive Ed Yingling.

Among the guests:

■ Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates. The wealthy philanthropist had a March 25 meeting with Obama in the Oval Office. The subject isn't disclosed. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation gives about $200 million a year in elementary and secondary education grants and is pressing for some of the same changes that Obama wants, such as paying teachers based on student test scores.

■ Labor leader and Obama supporter Andrew Stern, president of the Service Employees International Union. Twenty-two Stern visits to the White House are reflected in the records, including at least seven with Obama. Most of the visits with Obama were for group events; the subjects of most of his visits to other people weren't disclosed.

■ Ed Yingling, the chief executive of the American Bankers Association and a registered lobbyist. Yingling attended at least four meetings with Obama. One meeting included several bank CEOs; the subjects of the others included credit cards and housing.

■ Camden Fine, chief executive of the Independent Community Bankers of America and a Washington lobbyist for the group. Fine also had at least four Obama meetings, including the ones with bank CEOs and on housing.

■ Clooney, a U.N. messenger of peace, met with Obama and Vice President Joe Biden on Feb. 23 to discuss the humanitarian crisis in Sudan's Darfur region. Clooney has said he asked Obama to appoint a full-time regional envoy to report directly to the White House.

■ Steve Elmendorf, a Democratic strategist, lobbyist and former House staffer. Elmendorf, whose lobbying clients include Ford Motor Co., UnitedHealth Group and Verizon, attended a June 29 Obama reception and had at least four meetings with others at the White House complex.

Lobbyists and Democratic fundraisers Anthony and Heather Podesta made several visits to Obama aides. Anthony Podesta, whose brother, John, headed Obama's transition team, visited the White House complex at least five times, all on behalf of lobbying clients.

"The small number of meetings that I've been to at the White House—I go to the White House every other month on the average—have been on issues that the White House cared about," Anthony Podesta said in a phone interview Friday night when asked whether his fundraising and his brother's ties to Obama helped land the meetings.

Book: White House 'the American house next door'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lady Bird Johnson said walking through the White House was like walking "through history." Hillary Clinton called the home "a repository of America's storied past." Michelle Obama has called it "awe inspiring."

The authors of a new book have another name for the president's residence at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.: "the American house next door."

"Americans have this sense of the White House as something apart ... it doesn't seem to change from the outside, but that doesn't mean it hasn't changed constantly," said Ulysses Grant Dietz, the great-great grandson of the 18th president and co-author of "Dream House: The White House as an American Home."

Dietz and Sam Watters write that over the past 200 years, the White House has morphed from a country house to a suburban home to a museum. In the process, they say, changes the presidents have made to have reflected Americans' changing ideals about what a home should be.

AP/NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

This photograph from the 1880's provided by the New York Public Library, of the White House garden, is featured in the book, "Dream House: the White House as an American Home" which chronicles the history of the White House.

The authors go over some basic history. John Adams was the home's first occupant, taking up residence in 1800. The home survived a fire started by the British in 1814 during the War of 1812.

But their main concern is how the home has changed. Thomas Jefferson added colonnades. Teddy Roosevelt got rid of the Victorian furniture he considered in bad taste. And in the 1940s and 1950s as millions began moving into suburbs, President Harry Truman added a balcony and President Dwight Eisenhower barbecued on the third-floor terrace.

Marley heirs wage global war on trademark pirates

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Coming to a store near you: Bob Marley video games, shoes ... snowboards?

Heirs of the Jamaican reggae legend are plunging into the global trademark wars, seeking to enforce their exclusive rights to an image that has grown steadily in scope and appeal since the Jamaican superstar died of brain cancer in 1981 at age 36.

The Marley name, look and sound are estimated to generate an estimated $600 million a year in sales of unlicensed wares. Legal sales are much smaller—just $4 million for his descendants in 2007, according to Forbes magazine. The Marleys refuse to give a figure.

AP

This June 16, 2009 photo shows a worker painting a sign with the image of Bob Marley in front of Tuff-Gong Studios where Marley recorded some of his best-known songs in the capital of Kingston, Jamaica.

Now the family has hired Toronto-based Hilco Consumer Capital to protect their rights to the brand. Hilco CEO Jamie Salter believes Marley products could be a $1 billion business in a few years.

"The family managed all the rights before Hilco was brought on board," said Marley's fourth son, Rohan. "We didn't have a real good grasp on the international scope prior to Hilco, nor the proper management."

The turn to big business has stirred some grousing from die-hard fans in Internet chat rooms, who say it goes against the grain of a singer who preached nonmaterialism and popularized the Rastafarian credo of oneness with nature and marijuana consumption as a sacrament.

But Lorna Wainwright, who manages a Kingston studio and music shop called Tuff Gong, Marley's nickname during his slum boyhood in a nearby slum, backed the move, saying "the world needs the Bob Marley police."

"It's a free-for-all out there with all the fakes, all the piracy," she said. "It's important to continue getting his real message out like when he was alive because the world is in a crisis and Bob Marley's lyrics provide a solution."

A representative of the Bobo Ashanti order, a Rastafarian group, also expressed support.

"Bob Marley was and still is a stepping stone for many around the world who seek Rastafari roots and culture," said the Rasta rep who identified himself as the Honorable Prophet Moambeh Acosta in an e-mail. "We can only hope and pray for the (family's) success ... as the task seems insurmountable due to the years of piracy and counterfeiting."

Judge orders 3 to trial in Anna Nicole drug case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Three key players in the troubled world of Playboy model Anna Nicole Smith have been ordered to stand trial after a hearing that plumbed the drug-fueled depths of her final years and the alleged roles of her boyfriend and two doctors in feeding her addiction to prescription drugs.

A judge who heard sometimes shocking testimony about the flood of drugs provided to Smith ruled Friday there was sufficient evidence to try the defendants on charges of conspiring to give Smith sedatives and opiates.

Defense lawyers had argued that lawyer Howard K. Stern, Dr. Sandeep Kapoor and psychiatrist Dr. Khristine Eroshevich tried desperately to save the doomed model in her waning years, including a period when she gave birth to a daughter and lost her grown son to a drug overdose.

One of the last pieces of prosecution evidence introduced was a transcript of an investigator's interview of a Smith friend who said she saw Stern placing pills in her mouth.

"He poured them in her mouth like you would a bird," Gina Shelley said in the interview.

Superior Court Judge Robert J. Perry stressed that his ruling required only minimal proof that would cause a reasonable person to suspect the defendants committed the crimes. He dropped one charge that Eroshevich gave Smith placebos, finding there was not sufficient evidence.

With attorneys battling over whether Smith was addicted, the judge proclaimed, "I think you've proven (Smith is) an addict."

All three defendants pleaded not guilty, If convicted they each could face more than five years in prison. A Dec. 11 arraignment was set.

Eroshevich was the only defendant to comment after the hearing.

'Idol' host Ryan Seacrest gets restraining order

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge granted "American Idol" host Ryan Seacrest a temporary restraining order against a man arrested on suspicion of stalking the radio and television host outside his workplace on Friday, court records show.

Seacrest's attorneys obtained the stay-away order hours after they say Chidi Benjamin Uzomah Jr. was detained at the E! Entertainment Television headquarters in Los Angeles.

The filing claims Uzomah was carrying a knife and was trying to see the popular television and radio host.

Uzomah, 25, is on probation for another incident involving Seacrest. Court records show he pleaded guilty in Orange County, Calif., last month to three misdemeanors: carrying a switchblade knife, assault and battery. Uzomah was charged after he attacked one of Seacrest's bodyguards outside an event.

AP

In this Feb. 22, 2009 file photo, Television personality Ryan Seacrest poses on the press line at the Elton John Academy Award viewing and after party in West Hollywood, Calif.

"His aggressive and violent efforts to come into physical contact with me are extremely frightening to me," Seacrest wrote in a declaration filed Friday. "They have jeopardized not only my personal safety, but also the safety and well-being of those around me."

Police said Ozomah was arrested and booked on suspicion of stalking. Jail records showed he remained in police custody Friday evening, held on $150,000 bail.

The filing states Uzomah tried to meet Seacrest at radio station KIIS-FM earlier this month, but Seacrest records his show at the E! Entertainment Television headquarters. Besides working as the affable host of "American Idol" Seacrest has numerous other gigs, including producing E! series such as "Keeping Up With the Kardashians."

A court hearing on whether to grant a three-year stay-away order against Uzomah will be held on Nov. 17.

Hawke praises Madonna for Gypsy support in Romania

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—Actor Ethan Hawke on Saturday praised Madonna for her boldness in speaking out against discrimination against Gypsies, words that provoked boos from thousands of fans at her concert in Romania.

Hawke, visiting Romania to help promote his mother's charity supporting education for Gypsy children, placed the pop superstar alongside Bob Marley and John Lennon as part of a tradition of artists speaking out against racism.

"She transcended being a pop star," he told reporters. "She drew international attention and shone the spotlight on a level of racism and the need for greater education," Hawke said.

At an August concert in Bucharest on her "Sticky & Sweet" tour, Madonna called for an end to widespread discrimination against Eastern Europe's Gypsies, also known as Roma. Thousands of fans responded by booing her.

"I don't have an agenda, Madonna doesn't have an agenda. We aren't politicians," Hawke said.

Hawke, 38, was to speak later Saturday at the Ovidiu Rom charity Halloween ball. He and his mother, Leslie Hawke, the charity's president, were already dressed in costume: the actor in top hat and tails and his mother in a Japanese-style kimono, black wig and geisha-like makeup.

AP

Actor Ethan Hawke touches his hat before a press conference at the late Romanian communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's palace, in Bucharest, Romania, Saturday night, Oct. 31, 2009.

A pair of Madonna's Christian Dior shoes with autographed skyscraper gold heels are to be raffled off at the ball, which is to be held in the giant palace of the late dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. Among the other prizes is a gold chain provided by actress Vanessa Redgrave.

Hawke has been coming to Romania to support his mother's work since 2000, he said.

"I feel I can do something," he told reporters, "instead of being part of the problem."

Nicole Richie gets protection from paparazzi

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicole Richie and her children are getting some court-ordered space from a pair of celebrity photographers.

A judge on Friday granted Nicole Richie's request for a temporary restraining order against the paparazzi. Her filing states that one of the men, Eduardo Arrivabene, caused a car accident involving Richie in Beverly Hills earlier this month.

Richie

The filing added that Arrivabene and Ivon Emilio Melo Miguel continue to chase Richie and her children in the pursuit of shots. The men scream at Richie "in an attempt to get a reaction" and have left the 28-year-old frightened for her family's safety.

Richie has a newborn son and infant daughter with rocker Joel Madden.

Attempts to reach the photographers were unsuccessful.

Madonna leaves Malawi after week's charity tour

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)—Madonna has left Malawi after a nearly weeklong visit with her family, airport and charity officials said Saturday.

Officials said Madonna flew out of the southern African country on Friday. The 51-year-old celebrity arrived in the impoverished country on Sunday accompanied by her four children—daughters Lourdes and Mercy, and sons Rocco and David. Mercy and David were adopted from Malawi.

While in Malawi, she broke ground for her $15 million Raising Malawi Academy for Girls and visited the orphanage that cared for her son David before she adopted him.

Madonna's Raising Malawi, a charity founded in 2006 when she first visited the country, helps feed, educate and provide medical care for some of Malawi's orphans.

Malawi, a nation of 12 million, is one of the poorest countries in the world. About 500,000 children have lost a parent to AIDS.

Lil Wayne, Birdman hit with copyright suit in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A Florida man wants rappers Lil Wayne and Birdman to show him respect—for using his voice in an album track called just that.

Thomas Marasciullo filed a copyright infringement lawsuit Friday in a Manhattan federal court against the rappers, their record label and various music distribution outlets.

The lawsuit said Cash Money Records had him cut some "'Italian-styled' spoken word recordings" in 2006, then used them without pay or permission on "Respect" and other tracks from the rappers' joint 2006 album "Like Father, Like Son" and Birdman's 2007 "5 (Star) Stunna."

A lawyer and representatives for Cash Money Records and Universal Music Group, which has a distribution and marketing deal with the label, didn't immediately return messages Friday.

The gold-selling "Like Father, Like Son" hit the top of the R&B/hip-hop album chart. Several short tracks that Marasciullo says he wrote, recorded and copyrighted—including "Loyalty" and "Respect"—feature a man's voice delivering mob-movie-flavored repartee.

Wayne

Among the remarks, from "Loyalty": "The main name in this game is respect and loyalty. Family is a big thing. When we do this kind of business, everything is with respect."

The lawsuit says Marasciullo's recordings were used in four tracks on that album and five on "5 (Star) Stunna." It seeks unspecified damages for Marasciullo, who lives in Florida's Hernando County. He and his New York lawyer didn't immediately return telephone calls.

Marasciullo discovered his work had been used when his daughter discovered his "Respect" while trying buy a ring-tone version of the Aretha Franklin classic by the same name, the lawsuit said. His son also became entangled in the case when he was fired from a recording engineer job at Cash Money Records after the father started demanding payment, according to the lawsuit.

Mom longs to have empty nest all to herself again

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have a 19-year-old daughter, "Caitlin," whom I love very much. Despite a few rocky periods, we have a great relationship.

Caitlin moved in with her fiance shortly after she turned 18, and they were married a few months ago. After she left, I went through an "empty nest" period because it was the first time I was alone in 18 years.

When my daughter started coming to visit once a week, I was thrilled. It was sad when she had to leave, but I looked forward to "our days." Then I had to have surgery, and Caitlin came to take care of me. I have since recovered, but now—two months later—she's still visiting every day. She sits around watching TV and wants me to sit with her.

I love spending time with my daughter, but frankly, I need a break! I have tried "hinting" that she has her own house, pets and husband, and it would be fine if she didn't visit every day. It falls on deaf ears.

I don't want to hurt Caitlin's feelings, but I got used to being alone, and I miss it sometimes. How can I get her to stop coming over so often without making her think I don't want her?

CRAVING SOME SOLITUDE IN ARKANSAS

DEAR CRAVING: It's possible that when you had the surgery your daughter was afraid she would lose you, and now she's having separation anxieties of her own. It's time for a frank talk with her.

It's unusual for a bride to have so much free time on her hands. She should be using at least some of it to build a life of her own. Could there be a problem in her marriage? Her husband can't be thrilled that she's spending so much time at your place. Or does she lack direction?

What's going on isn't healthy for either of you. So speak up and establish some ground rules. If you prefer that she visit only once a week, say so. Your daughter needs to "get a life," and you are entitled to one apart from her.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I had a bad cold a few weeks ago, and while waiting in my doctor's office, I occupied myself by reading one of the many magazines he keeps there for patients. It occurred to me later that the magazine I had been holding had also been handled by countless other sick patients during the weeks it had laid there.

Couldn't those magazines be carriers of innumerable germs that could infect visiting patients? Is it possible that providing reading material in hospitals or doctors' waiting rooms could actually be an unhealthy practice?

GERM THEORIST IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR GERM THEORIST: Yes, I think so. And the door handles, elevator buttons, chart clipboard and pens could also be loaded with germs. That's why it's a good idea to always carry disinfectant gel or wipes with you.

P.S. If a valet takes your car or the keys—or hands you change ... oh, Lord, I'm beginning to sound like Howard Hughes.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: What is the proper title for your mother's third husband? I have looked everywhere and can't find an answer. I know that her second husband is my stepfather, but I am curious what the third one is called.

NAME DROPPER IN ALABAMA

DEAR NAME DROPPER: Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines the "stepfather" as "the husband of one's mother when distinct from one's natural or legal father." He could also be referred to as your mother's husband, or simply by his given name.

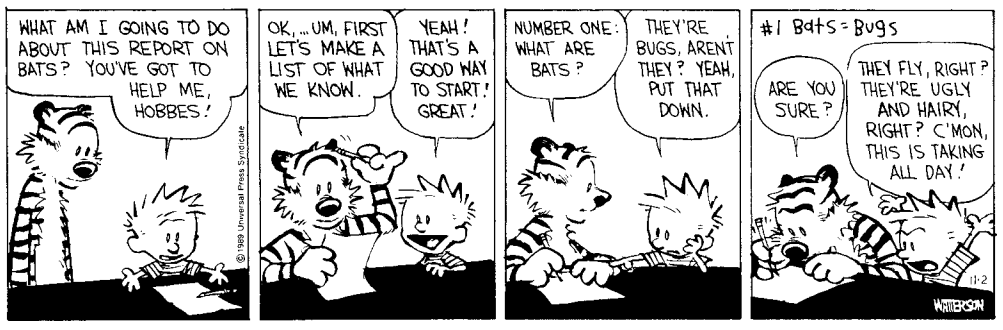
■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS REPORT ON BATS? YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, HOBBES!
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
OK, ... UM, FIRST LET'S MAKE A LIST OF WHAT WE KNOW.
YEAH! THAT'S A GOOD WAY TO START! GREAT!
NUMBER ONE: WHAT ARE BATS?
THEY'RE BUGS, AREN'T THEY? YEAH, PUT THAT DOWN.
#1 Bats = Bugs
ARE YOU SURE?
THEY FLY, RIGHT? THEY'RE UGLY AND HAIRY, RIGHT? C'MON, THIS IS TAKING ALL DAY!
11-2
WATTERSON

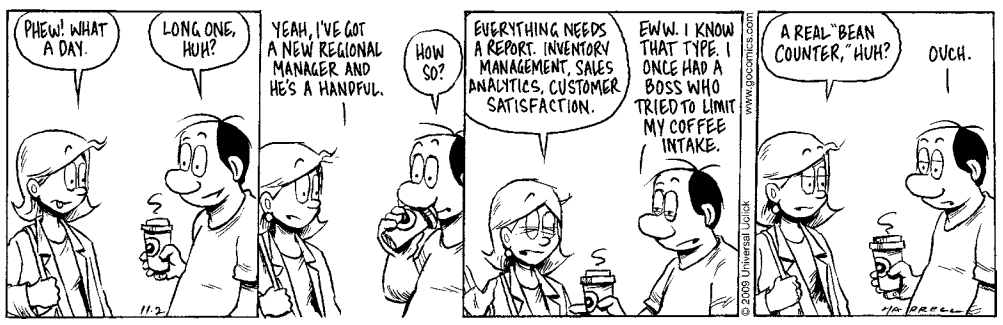
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

IT'S A SMALL WORLD
JIM DAVIS 11-2
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved. www.garfield.com
BECAUSE YOU'VE EATEN A LARGE PORTION OF IT
FOR DESSERT, I'D LIKE SOME BAKED ALASKA!
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


PHEW! WHAT A DAY.
LONG ONE, HUH?
YEAH, I'VE GOT A NEW REGIONAL MANAGER AND HE'S A HANDFUL.
HOW SO?
EVERYTHING NEEDS A REPORT. INVENTORY MANAGEMENT, SALES ANALYTICS, CUSTOMER SATISFACTION.
EWW. I KNOW THAT TYPE. I ONCE HAD A BOSS WHO TRIED TO LIMIT MY COFFEE INTAKE.
A REAL "BEAN COUNTER," HUH?
OUCH.
11-2
© 2009 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com
MARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HEY, SAL. WHAT'S MY BAR TAB AT?
FORTY BUCKS.
© 2009 Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick
FORTY BUCKS. HERE Y'GO.
11-2
Glenn McCoy
IT'S A RELIEF TO FINALLY PAY OFF MY STUDENT LOANS.
www.gocomics.com

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

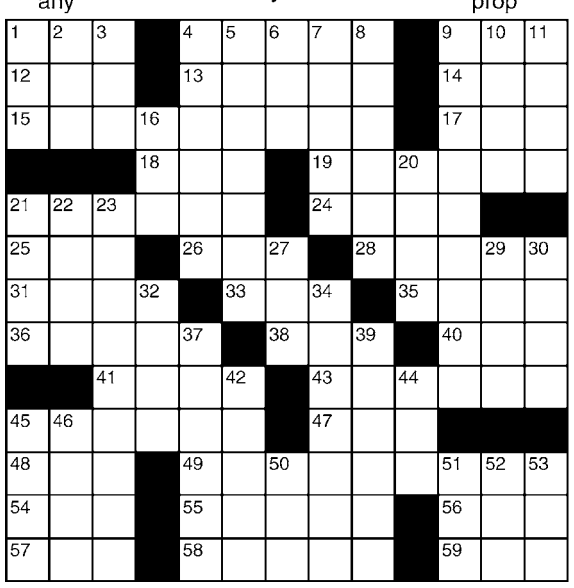
ACROSS
1 TV alien
4 "Everybody Loves Raymond" wife
9 Slight application
12 Animation frame
13 Bankrupt company of 2001
14 Regret
15 Indoor garment
17 Finish
18 Latin 101 word
19 Plays unfairly
21 Tenant
24 Steersman's place
25 Asia's neighbor (Abbr.)
26 Last mo.
28 Big, colorful parrot
31 On the briny
33 Long sandwich
35 Not any
36 Play for time
38 Atl. counterpart
40 Alias abbr.
41 Sir's partner
43 Dentist's concern
45 Suddenly, to the maestro
47 Rage
48 Expert
49 It's not a lot, but you can live on it
54 — Khan
55 Cheer up
56 Work with
57 Encountered
58 Plastic wrap name
59 Commonest English word

DOWN
1 Interlaken interjection
2 Zodiac sign
3 Winter ailment
4 Considered
5 Concert extensions
6 Sis' sib
7 Kitchen pest
8 Country song?
9 Joseph's garb, in a musical
10 Family member
11 Hotel furniture
16 Droop
20 Verve
21 Meadows
22 Expel
23 Very attractive one
27 Coffee holder
29 "Diana" singer
30 Have on
32 Jai —
34 Whom Castro overthrew
37 Woodshop machinery
39 Lurch
42 Bread
44 CSA soldier
45 Unwanted e-mail
46 Incite
50 Old Mideast inits.
51 No longer chic
52 Bonfire residue
53 Golf-ball prop

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	A	L	■	S	P	A	R	■	R	I	M	E
U	R	I	■	Y	O	R	E	■	E	V	E	R
S	E	E	■	S	K	I	D	■	B	E	R	G
H	A	U	N	T	E	D	H	O	U	S	E	S
■	■	■	O	E	R	■	E	A	T	■	■	■
G	L	O	O	M	■	F	A	T	■	M	O	S
Y	A	R	N	■	G	A	D	■	K	I	N	K
M	O	B	■	F	O	X	■	I	N	L	A	Y
■	■	■	E	R	A	■	O	N	E	■	■	■
J	A	C	K	O	L	A	N	T	E	R	N	S
U	G	L	I	■	O	L	I	O	■	E	O	N
T	H	A	N	■	N	E	O	N	■	S	U	I
S	A	N	G	■	G	E	N	E	■	T	N	T

Saturday's answer 11-2



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nelly, 35; Reginald "Fieldy" Arvizu, 40; k.d.Lang, 48; Stefanie Powers, 67

Happy Birthday: It's up to you to make your move and to do so without expecting anything from anyone. Taking responsibility by contributing solutions to whatever problems you face will speak volumes about who you are and what you have to offer. It's time for new beginnings—rid yourself of the burdens you've been carrying around for so long. Your numbers are 5, 12, 17, 20, 24, 30, 42

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A challenge will strike an emotional chord. Chill out and let things come to you. Aggressive action will bring responses that are difficult to deal with and could compromise a partnership you are involved in. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You will face ultimatums that can lead to relationship problems. Before getting upset or acting stubborn, consider the consequences. You may want to back down and compromise before you lose out altogether. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): A relationship that interests you will be heightened by an opportunity to work with this person. Don't hold back; it's your playful actions that will intrigue and entice someone to take part in your game plan. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Embrace change and take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way, even if you are shy or reluctant to venture down new avenues. There is a surprise that awaits you if you dare to try something new. Don't let someone else's responsibilities become your own. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't get caught up in the moment and overreact to something that is taken out of context. You have to be less opinionated and more perceptive if you want to make the right choices and avoid emotional pitfalls. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Your communication skills will make an impression, opening up opportunities to experience different cultures, travel to distant lands or to organize a service for those less fortunate. Speak up and you will get what you are asking for. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You can take care of personal business that will ensure greater security and financial benefits. People with similar interests will enable you to get something up and running that you've been wanting to do for some time. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't give in to emotional blackmail. You are likely to infuriate someone trying to take advantage of you. Set your rules and stick to them, no matter what. A partnership may have to be dissolved in order for you to move forward. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): A little will go a long way, so don't go overboard financially, emotionally or physically. You will be able to take advantage of an unusual, interesting scenario that brings together what you've learned with what you are currently experiencing. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A pending personal issue can now be put to rest. A financial change is apparent but only if you are willing to do things a little differently. Walk away from a partnership that isn't working for you. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): If someone is costing you too much, perhaps you should revisit your relationship. Emotions can lead you down the wrong path. If things aren't equal, you may want to move on to someone willing to give as much as you. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can tie up loose ends and plant some seeds that will lead to a financial gain, contract or settlement. Don't let a long time friend or partner hold you back because of a difference of opinion. Love is in the stars. Change is upon you. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, determined and persistent. You are intense, loyal and protective of home and family. You are secretive and observant.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5	4	6			1	8	
		9		8	3	6		
	8						7	
	2		1		7			9
	4		8		5		2	
5			3		6		1	
	3						9	
		8	5	1		4		
	1	2			4	5	6	

Difficulty Level ★ 11/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

1	7	8	2	6	4	9	5	3
9	2	6	8	3	5	4	7	1
3	4	5	1	7	9	2	6	8
4	1	7	3	9	2	5	8	6
8	9	2	6	5	7	1	3	4
6	5	3	4	8	1	7	9	2
5	6	4	9	2	3	8	1	7
2	8	9	7	1	6	3	4	5
7	3	1	5	4	8	6	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/31

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GUERLAIN PERFUMES — **Solution: 10 letters**

E	A	B	(I)	E	D	A	M	A	H	C	B	F	C	T
L	N	(R)	A	I	R	O	G	E	L	L	A	H	O	M
Y	(I)	U	A	G	N	S	A	M	E	H	A	N	A	S
(S)	K	P	L	S	A	R	H	U	S	M	E	S	T	E
E	M	C	I	E	M	T	E	A	P	R	K	L	I	M
E	O	E	I	V	L	A	E	S	L	M	U	N	U	O
S	U	R	E	J	O	P	S	L	A	I	S	E	N	R
R	C	I	G	A	M	I	M	G	L	O	M	A	L	A
C	H	X	U	A	A	I	N	A	L	E	C	A	C	F
E	O	I	O	B	T	I	A	E	P	S	G	R	R	C
D	I	L	R	S	F	H	N	Q	E	S	A	N	E	I
R	R	E	O	I	I	C	A	R	U	M	E	C	A	H
A	H	U	C	G	E	R	F	B	G	A	M	R	M	T
T	K	A	M	A	N	D	A	R	I	N	E	O	U	Y
O	R	C	H	I	D	E	E	P	F	T	E	S	H	M

© 2009 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 11/2

Allegoria, Aqua, Aromes, Bagatelle, Bleue, Cedrat, Chamade, Champs, Cologne, Cream, Elixir, Elysees, Figue, Fleurs, Fresca, Habit, Herba, Homme, Insolence, Iris, Jicky, Magic, Magnifica, Mandarine, Mask, Milk, Mitsouko, Monsieur, Mouchoir, Mythic, Nahema, Nuit, Orchidee, Pamplelune, Paris, Pivoine, Rouge, Samsara, Serum, Shalimar, Toner

Last Saturday's Answer: Vintages

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 15, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 or 29, send $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Uclick, plus $3 postage for the first book order. $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution: Gimme five!

EMPLOYMENT

Saipan Laboratory Technician for insurance svcs • Proficient in phlebotomy • Performed 300+ blood draws within past 2 yrs • Must have own vehicle. Call (671) 647-1100 email guam@llpacific.com

share the power of a wish℠

"I want to meet Winnie the Pooh!"

"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"

"When I grow up, I want to become a police officer!"

22 years of making wishes come true!

For eligible children with life-threatening illnesses

MAKE-A-WISH

Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH
Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

FOR SALE 8

Brand new, professional size pool/ billiard table for sale, including setting-up. $1,750. Call 287-7676.

Two Bedroom Apt. for Rent

Located off Texas Rd., in Susupe behind Calvo's Nursery in a quiet and secure area across from IT&E, walking distance to MHS. Completely furnished with its own washer & dryer, 24hrs CUC & rain water. Ceiling fans in all room, including bathroom. Bedrooms air conditioned with walk-in closets. Clean and well maintained. $450/month. **Call Ed at 788-6268 or 235-0409.**

WOWpao
• Dimsum • Noodles • Bread • Cakes •
Complete Bakery Equipments
FOR SALE
Located in Garapan behind DFS.
For inquiries call 233-7266 or 235-1891
GOOD DEAL

EMPLOYMENT

All around beautician. Jigs Barber Shop in VS Sablan Plaza, Chalan Piao across Hopwood. Call 235-1929 or 898-5713

FOR SALE $$$

1,030 shares of United Micronesian Development Association par value $30.00 per share. Call 288-3571

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GIMME
GIMME
GIMME
GIMME
GIMME

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

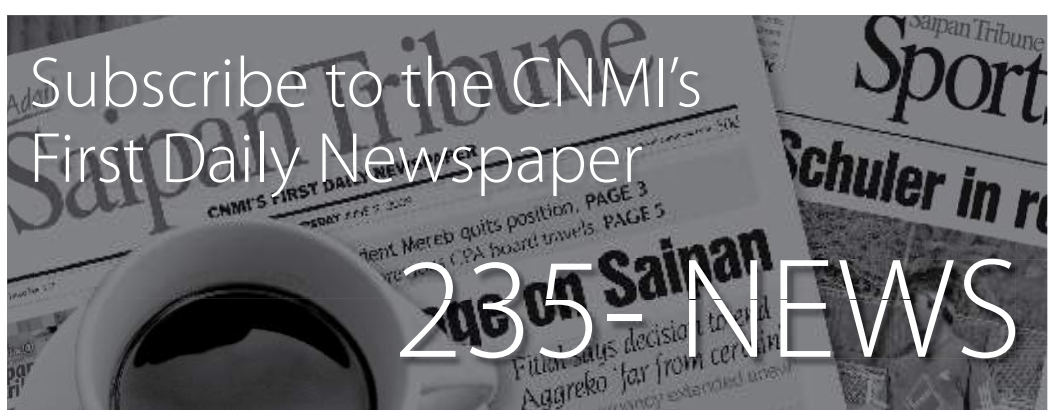
#JVA10-001 **CLOSING DATE: November 17, 2009**

The NMI Retirement Fund is seeking professionals and motivated individuals to work in a busy and challenging office. Salary and benefits are commensurate with the responsibilities assigned to the successful candidates and in compliance with CNMI laws. The following positions are available:

		Salary Range (Pay Level)
1.	Fund Legal Counsel	Up to $70,000, depending on experience
2.	Benefits Technician II	Starting at $14,388.82 (20), depending on experience
3.	Benefits Technician I	Starting at $13,052.98 (18), depending on experience

Interested applicants must submit their **application, resume, educational credentials, and police clearance** to the NMI Retirement Fund by hand delivery, mail or electronically. Applications and the complete Position Description are available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan; or by e-mail from the Administrator. The closing date for all positions is **Tuesday, November 17, 2009. Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked "JVA10-001 Confidential," and must have the applicant's name and return address on the outside of the envelope.**

Mark Aguon, Administrator
NMI Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Arenas scores 32 to lead Wizards past Nets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Gilbert Arenas scored 32 points, including a halfcourt buzzer-beater at the end of the first quarter, Andray Blatche scored a career-high 30, and the Washington Wizards overcame the absence of both of their regular starting forwards Saturday night in a 123-104 win over the New Jersey Nets.

With injured two-time All-Stars Caron Butler and Antawn Jamison on the bench in their expensive dark suits for the home opener, Arenas made 9 of 13 shots, 11 of 12 free throws and had seven assists. Butler sat out after bruising his left knee in Friday night's loss to Atlanta, and Jamison is out at least two more weeks with an injured right shoulder - bothersome news for a team that hasn't had its top players healthy in a long time.

But Arenas and Blatche carried the load with room to spare. Blatche made his first five shots and finished 15 for 18 from the field for the Wizards, who shot 61.5 percent - their best shooting game in seven years.

Chris Douglas-Roberts had a career-high 25 points to lead the Nets, who were missing point guard Devin Harris - out at least a week with an injured right groin. Rafer Alston scored 20 points starting in Harris' spot.

The Wizards guessed right when they decided to pass out Arenas masks for Halloween, given that he was the only one of the team's Big Three who could play. Though still announced as Agent Zero during the pregame hoopla, Arenas looks as if he really has ditched his flamboyant alter ego. He was virtually expressionless on the court and walked toward the bench after his halfcourt buzzer jumper as if he were walking down a hallway somewhere - without even cracking a smile or raising his arms to acknowledge the cheers.

AP

Washington Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas, right, goes to the basket as he is defended by New Jersey Nets forward Eduardo Najera (14) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, in Washington. The Wizards won, 123-104.

Cavaliers 90, Bobcats 79

At Cleveland, Delonte West scored 13 points in his delayed season debut, Mo Williams added 24 and LeBron James 14 as the Cleveland Cavaliers, back at full strength, rolled to a 90-79 win over the Charlotte Bobcats on Saturday night.

Williams scored 12 in the fourth quarter—all on 3-pointers - and James added nine assists and seven rebounds for the Cavs, now 2-2 after an 0-2 start.

West's turbulent offseason finally brought him back to the floor. After missing all eight preseason games and Cleveland's first three of the regular season to deal with personal issues, the troubled and valuable West was cleared by team doctors, ending more than a month of drama.

He went 5 of 7 from the field in 24 minutes.

Vladimir Radmanovic scored 12 and D.J. Augustin 11 to lead Charlotte, which has never won in Cleveland.

Sixers 141, Knicks 127

At New York, Andre Iguodala scored 32 points, including the go-ahead three-point play in overtime, and the Philadelphia 76ers blew a 23-point lead before beating the New York Knicks 141-127 on Saturday night.

Lou Williams added 27 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists for the 76ers, who seemed headed for a quick knockout in the undercard bout on the Philadelphia-New York weekend card. Instead, they barely held on at the end after a furious Knicks rally ended with an overtime loss for the second time in two nights.

Al Harrington responded to a demotion with a career-high 42 points, but fouled out with the Knicks leading by three in overtime. Danilo Gallinari, who replaced him in the lineup, finished with a career-best 30.

Thaddeus Young scored 25 for the Sixers, who made 16 of 22 shots in the first quarter, rang up 70 points in the first half, and shot 61 percent in their second victory in two nights.

Somehow it ended up being a difficult one. New York scored 41 points in the fourth and 71 in the second half but dropped to 0-3, its worst start since losing its first five under Larry Brown in 2005-06.

Spurs 113, Kings 94

At San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 24 points and Richard Jefferson added 21 points, leading the San Antonio Spurs to a 113-94 victory over the winless Sacramento Kings on Saturday night.

The Spurs got a strong performance from Manu Ginobili, who scored 13 points and had three assists in a reserve role. After scoring 28 points against Chicago on Thursday, Tim Duncan had just seven points Saturday. He grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked one shot.

Kevin Martin had 26 points and Spencer Hawes scored 22 for the Kings, who dropped to 0-3.

Ginobili's biggest contribution might have been his corralling of a bat that flew onto the court.

Rockets 111, Trail Blazers 107

At Houston, Trevor Ariza scored a career-high 33 points, Aaron Brooks added 28 points and the Houston Rockets held on to beat the Portland Trail Blazers at home for the fifth straight time in the regular season, 111-107 on Saturday night.

Houston had to overcome a 42-point performance by Brandon Roy and a determined Trail Blazers offense that kept the game close to the end. Ariza's previous career high was 26 points, last accomplished March 15 for the Los Angeles Lakers against Dallas.

The Rockets hit 12 of 24 3-point baskets and shot 50.6 percent overall for the game. Ariza was 5 for 8 from 3-point range.

Houston led 59-54 at the half and never lost the lead. Portland got to 87-84 early in the fourth quarter but never could push ahead. LaMarcus Aldridge scored 27 points for the Trail Blazers and Andre Miller had 15.

Bucks 96, Pistons 85

At Milwaukee, rookie Brandon Jennings scored 21 of his 24 points in the second half, Hakim Warrick came off the bench to add 21 points and the Milwaukee Bucks won their home opener with a 96-85 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Saturday night.

Tayshun Prince's 11-foot jumper from the baseline pulled the Pistons to 81-77 with 5:51 to play, but Warrick made two free throws and Jennings hit a runner in the lane as the Bucks went up by eight.

Playing with five fouls over the final three minutes, Jennings darted through the Pistons' defense and kept the Bucks from failing down the stretch.

He hit two free throws with 2:34 left, and after Ersan Ilyasova scored on a putback for Milwaukee, Jennings stole the ball and passed to Ilyasova, who was fouled on the play. His two free throws made it 95-83 with 1:07 left.

Maverics 93, Clippers 84

At Los Angeles, the Dallas Mavericks were the team the Los Angeles Clippers beat for their first victory last season. Dirk Nowitzki and his teammates were intent on not letting it happen again.

Nowitzki had 24 points and nine rebounds, leading the Mavericks to a 93-84 victory on Saturday night and handing the Clippers their fourth straight loss to start the season. Last year, Los Angeles started out 0-6 before beating Dallas at Staples Center.

"The Clippers are a much better team than their record reflects," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "We were in this exact situation last year—they were winless, but they got us and it sent us into a bad stretch. Tonight we were able to make the plays down the stretch to get it done."

The Mavericks, coming off a victory over the NBA champion Lakers on Friday, could do no better than a 55-all tie with the Clippers at halftime.

"There was no letdown," Carlisle insisted. "Our concentration and our attitude was great coming into this game. Our guys knew that this was going to be a tough game. Look, it's hard to win in this place, whether we're playing the Lakers or the Clippers. To get out of here with two is an accomplishment."

The Clippers made only one field goal over the final 7:12, a seven-foot hook shot by Chris Kaman, who led them with a career-high 27 points on 12-for-19 shooting. He also grabbed 11 rebounds.

PGA Tour officials cancel Viking Classic

MADISON, Miss. (AP)—PGA Tour officials canceled the weather-stricken Viking Classic on Saturday because of unplayable course conditions.

There will be no makeup date and players will move on to the final event of the season, the Children's Miracle Network Classic on Nov. 12-15 in Orlando, Fla.

Annandale Golf Club received 1.75 inches of rain overnight Friday and Saturday, completely soaking an already marginal course that had areas of standing water and large tracts of mud.

Madison has received more than 20 inches of rain in the last six weeks.

"I told them this was closer to a FEMA disaster site than a golf course," tournament director Randy Watkins said. "Somebody asked if you could play somewhere else. I don't think you could play golf within 150 miles of here."

Officials postponed, then canceled play Thursday and Friday mornings after nearly constant rain. There had been hope officials might shorten the tournament to 54 holes and play next week or weekend, but groundskeepers don't think the course will dry out that quickly.

Slugger White, PGA Tour vice president for rules and competition, said Commissioner Tim Finchem had asked the board for permission to play a 36-hole tournament as early as Monday but was unsuccessful.

"We just couldn't get there," White said.

This is the first time a tournament has been scrapped outright because of weather since the 1996 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, which was canceled due to unplayable conditions. The last rainout came in Houston in 1991, though that tournament was rescheduled.

The Viking Classic was important for a few dozen players who are chasing tour cards for the 2010 season. The top 125 on the money list pass through and most of the players hovering around that level were in attendance. They'll have just one chance now to move up.

Rich Beem entered at No. 124 and hoped to have a good tournament to wrap up his spot on the tour. Now he'll be in a sudden-death situation of sorts in two weeks.

"I would be lying to you saying it wasn't nerve wracking to a point," Beem said. "The only thing I can control is how well I play. If I could go home with this week, with a week off now, get practice time in and get ready for Disney, that's all I can control. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to go out to Disney and play well and see if we can't wrap this thing up."

Agent: Chiefs, Johnson, reach agreement

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Larry Johnson's(notes) agent said he and the Kansas City Chiefs agreed Saturday night to cut the running back's two-week suspension in half, saving him more than $300,000.

Peter Schaffer told The Associated Press that nothing had been signed.

"We've been working hard at it since Thursday," Schaffer said. "We think we have a positive resolution and we'll be able to move forward in the right direction."

The Chiefs suspended Johnson for two weeks until Nov. 9 for what they called conduct detrimental to the club. It would include only one game, Nov. 8 at Jacksonville, because this is their bye week.

On his Twitter account last Sunday night and then again the next day speaking to reporters, Johnson used gay slurs. It triggered quick reaction from gay rights groups demanding that he be punished. In another tweet, he also questioned Chiefs coach Todd Haley's competence.

The two-week absence would cost him about $630,000. He might still face punishment from the league.

The Chiefs have consistently said they would have no comment on the situation and a spokesman told AP Saturday night the club had nothing to say.

Johnson, who turns 30 this month, needs only 75 yards to become the Chiefs' career leader.

When the suspension was announced Wednesday, Schaffer said he intended to appeal. But he said Saturday night that Johnson had resisted.

"He kept saying, `You go to a grievance hearing, they can get adversarial and I don't want to be that way,'" Schaffer related. "He said, `I plan on being a Chief the next Monday, so why would I want to fight with somebody when the next day I will be fighting for them?'

"I thought that was a very mature stance."

Reversed HR call helps Yankees win Game 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The first instant replay call in World Series history did more than turn a double into a home run. It changed the whole game for Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees.

Rodriguez's disputed shot started a big comeback and those powerful Yankees bats finally broke loose, backing Andy Pettitte in a rain-delayed 8-5 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Saturday night that gave New York a 2-1 Series lead.

After pitching dominated the first two games in the Bronx, the Yankees and Phillies showed their muscle, combining for six home runs. Jayson Werth connected twice for Philadelphia.

Rain affected the Series schedule in Philadelphia for the second consecutive year, delaying the start by 1 hour, 20 minutes. Once they hit the field in front of their boisterous fans, the Phillies took a 3-0 lead - but it was squandered by a struggling Cole Hamels.

Game 4 is Sunday night. Joe Blanton pitches against Yankees ace CC Sabathia, who goes on three days' rest for the second time this postseason.

A slumping Nick Swisher and Hideki Matsui also went deep for New York, and Johnny Damon hit a tiebreaking, two-run double.

Pettitte settled down after a shaky start and even helped himself at the plate with a tying single. His six-inning outing was enough to earn his 17th postseason win, extending his major league record.

Some fans were dressed in Phillies red—others in full costume for the second-ever World Series game on Halloween. They whipped around white rally towels, but their team just got whipped.

Carlos Ruiz of the Phillies homered in the ninth off Phil Hughes. Mariano Rivera finished up at 12:42 a.m. in a non-save situation.

With the Yankees down three runs, Mark Teixeira walked in the fourth and Rodriguez hit an opposite-field drive deep into the right-field corner. He cruised into second base with an apparent double after the ball ricocheted back onto the field.

Video replays, however, showed the ball struck the lens of a television camera positioned just above the fence at the 330-foot sign. New York manager Joe Girardi came out to talk with right-field umpire Jeff Nelson as Phillies pitching coach Rich Dubee visited the mound.

While Rodriguez chatted with Ryan Howard of the Phillies at second base, umpires huddled in the infield. Four of the six went under the stands for a look at the replay and emerged about a minute later.

The signal: home run.

Rodriguez's first hit in nine World Series at-bats was his sixth homer this postseason, tying Bernie Williams' club record from 1996. It also was the 17th postseason homer this year for the Yankees, setting a franchise mark.

The call seemed to give the Yankees a boost and help them break out of their Series slump—the team that led the majors in runs (915) and homers (244) during the regular season scored only four times in the first two games at home.

New York kept hitting in the fifth and chased Hamels. Swisher opened with a double and slid home with the tying run when Pettitte looped a one-out single to center on a first-pitch breaking ball.

It was Pettitte's third hit in 18 career postseason at-bats, second in World Series play.

Who needs a designated hitter?

Then, the Fox broadcast caught Derek Jeter saying to plate umpire Brian Gorman: "We're going to have to listen to Pettitte now. He's been bragging about his hitting all year."

Jeter fisted a soft single and Damon cracked a two-run double to right-center for a 5-3 lead. Hamels was lifted after another walk to Teixeira and walked off the mound to a mix of boos and cheers.

The left-hander, who was 4-0 with a 1.80 ERA in the postseason last year, fell to 1-2 with a 7.58 ERA in four outings this time around.

Swisher homered off rookie J.A. Happ in the sixth and took a long look at his solo shot to left, which made it 6-3.

Werth answered leading off the bottom half with a mammoth drive off the facing of the second deck in left. After connecting, he slammed his bat to the ground and glared into the Philadelphia dugout as if to urge on his teammates.

It was Werth's seventh home run this postseason, one shy of the major league record held by Carlos Beltran (2004) and Barry Bonds (2002).

Jorge Posada's RBI single off Chad Durbin in the seventh gave New York a three-run cushion, and Matsui added a solo shot as a pinch-hitter in the eighth.

Matsui was on the bench because World Series rules don't permit a DH in National League parks.

Pettitte fell behind 3-0 in the second. Werth reached down for a breaking ball and hit a leadoff homer to left, setting off fireworks and lighting up the Liberty Bell in right-center.

Pedro Feliz doubled off the right-field wall, Ruiz walked and Hamels' bunt single loaded the bases. Jimmy Rollins walked to force in a run and Shane Victorino added a sacrifice fly.

Pettitte avoided further damage by striking out Chase Utley, then settled in and held Philadelphia in check. That gave the Yankees a chance to come back.

The Phillie Phanatic was wearing a rain-slicker and fisherman's hat when he high-fived Mike Schmidt as the Hall of Famer walked to the mound to throw out the first pitch to Howard.

The grounds crew was still drying puddles on the warning track as the Phillies took the field.

Last season, Game 5 of the World Series between the Phillies and Tampa Bay was suspended for two days because of rain. Once it resumed—in the sixth inning—the Phillies went on to a 4-3 victory that clinched the championship.

Last year's Game 3 started at 10:06 p.m. because of rain and didn't end until 1:47 a.m. It was the latest start in Series history.

AP

New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez is congratulated by Mark Teixeira (25) after hitting a two-run homer during the fourth inning of Game 3 of the Major League Baseball World Series Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, in Philadelphia. The hit, originally called a double, was reversed to a home run.

Large-market teams dominate baseball this year

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Milwaukee Brewers owner Mark Attanasio thought about the teams in baseball's final four this year—large-market clubs all—and wondered whether there would room for his franchise anytime soon.

"We don't know if that's a trend or just an aberration," he said. "The disparity among the clubs appears to be widening."

Baseball's four league championship series teams were all among the top nine in opening-day payroll this year, led by the top-spending New York Yankees at $201 million. They were joined by the No. 6 Los Angeles Angels ($114 million), No. 7 Philadelphia ($113 million) and the No. 9 Los Angeles Dodgers ($100 million).

No room this year for the little guys.

"It's certainly trending in the direction," Oakland Athletics general manager Billy Beane said. "The big markets are always going to be there. Whether or not they're the only ones there I guess remains to be seen."

Just last year, the Tampa Bay Rays won the AL pennant with a $51 million payroll, 28th among the 30 major league clubs. And parity has increased throughout the sport under the 1996-01 and 2002-06 labor contracts along with the current deal, which runs until December 2011.

Since the end of the Yankees' run of four World Series titles in five years, 23 of the 30 major league teams have made the playoffs from 2001-09, with only Baltimore, Kansas City, Texas and Toronto missing out in the American League, and Cincinnati, Montreal-Washington and Pittsburgh failing to make it in the National. Seven teams have won the World Series in the last eight years, with only the Boston Red Sox taking the title twice.

Increased revenue sharing has helped the small and middle markets, and the luxury tax has slowed spending by the Yankees to some degree.

"We've had very good success over the last several years," said Bob DuPuy, Major League Baseball's president and chief operating officer. "While it has attracted people's attention that this year the higher-payroll teams and the higher-revenue teams made the playoffs, it is just one year and not enough to declare a trend."

Among the top 15 spenders as of the start of the season, just four had losing records this year: the No. 2 New York Mets (70-92), No. 8 Houston (74-88), the No. 12 Chicago White Sox (79-83) and No 15 Cleveland (65-97).

And just five of the bottom 15 finished with winning records: No. 18 Colorado (92-70), No. 22 Texas (87-75), No. 24 Minnesota (87-76), No. 25 Tampa Bay (84-78) and No. 30 Florida (87-75).

There's no absolute correlation between spending and winning. But having lots of bucks helps.

"We do not ever in this organization use payroll as an excuse for a lack of performance," Florida Marlins president David Samson said. "We expect to make the playoffs every year, and our players when they take the field don't get intimidated by other teams' salaries."

"You still have to win games," he added. "I don't really focus on it the way frankly the media does as far as big payroll/small payroll. What we focus on is how teams are composed, the players they have and the way they build themselves and the way they perform."

After CC Sabathia left the Brewers last offseason to sign a $161 million, eight-year contract with the Yankees, Attanasio said maybe it was time for baseball to consider a salary cap.

Now, having had nearly a year to examine and reflect, he realizes proposing an absolute ceiling might provoke a confrontation with the players' union, which struck for 7 1/2 months and wiped out the World Series after owners tried to get one in 1994.

"There are better ways to address to competitive balance than salary caps," he said. "There are other things we can maybe fix before you get into that very difficult conversation."

A consensus has emerged among the major league clubs to propose two major changes to the amateur draft. One would extend it beyond the United States—players outside the 50 states currently are free agents who may sign with any team.

Another would be to eliminate negotiations for amateur players and replace them with a fixed slotting system. That could shift money from amateurs to veterans and would decrease the commissions for the advisers who represent top high school, college and international players.

There could be tinkering with the formulas for revenue sharing and the luxury tax—currently set at 40 percent on the amount of payrolls above a set threshold, using average annual values of 40-man rosters. Management could ask that the tax be a dollar-for-dollar penalty.

Pacquiao: Charity work won't derail title bid

BOXING

LOS ANGELES—Manny Pacquiao denied that humanitarian work in typhoon-ravaged Philippines took away from his training sessions for an upcoming title fight with Miguel Cotto.

Pacquiao donated money and took time out from his sparring sessions help the victims in the wake of typhoons that killed hundreds of people and rendered tens of thousands of families homeless in his native Philippines.

"It was mentally draining for him to see the devastation because thousands passed away and that is sad but once we stepped in the gym he was fine," trainer Freddie Roach said.

About 1,000 people died due to the two storms and more than 162,000 people had to be moved into makeshift evacuation centers because of back-to-back typhoons Ketsana (Philippine codename: Ondoy) and Parma (Philippine codename: Pepeng).

Pacquiao (49-3-2, 27 KOs) said he would have liked to do more but had to get back to training or risk not being fully prepared to face World Boxing Organization champ Cotto in their November 14 fight in Las Vegas.

"I wanted to help them but I am in the middle of heavy training," said Pacquiao. "It is difficult but I have to focus on my fight and nobody can help me in the ring."

Pacquiao, of General Santos City, is chasing a piece of boxing history by trying to win seven titles in seven-different divisions. Cotto (34-1, 27 KOs) has been called a throwback fighter but Roach says Pacquiao is more old school.

"Manny is a throwback," said Roach, who is predicting Pacquiao will knock Cotto out. "He is like a Henry Armstrong type of guy.

"He is carrying his punch and his power up with him. This would be one of the greatest achievements ever and he would surpass great ones like Sugar Ray Leonard."

Pacquiao, who attempted to run for a seat at the House of Representatives in 2007, arrived in Los Angeles on the weekend after training in both Baguio City and Manila for just over a month.

He has been working the last few days with Roach at the Wild Card gym in Los Angeles.

"I am excited," Pacquiao said Wednesday. "It is going to be great because our style is kind of similar."

"I am hungry to win this fight. I feel like I am in 100 percent condition. I can't wait until November 14."

Roach said they had to leave for the US sooner than expected because of the demands on Pacquiao's time in the Philippines.

"Baguio worked out well because we asked people to stay away," Roach said. "He didn't have politicians bothering him.

"He was on fire the whole month there and we had great camp. The weather messed with us but we ran in the rain and we ran inside sometimes.

"The last week in Manila was tougher because everyone was trying to pull him different ways. There were lots of politicians."

Pacquiao is hugely popular among people of all ages in his native country and among Filipino expats, working overseas as laborers or domestic helpers.

Roach took it one step further Wednesday saying that Pacquiao is more popular than American boxer Mike Tyson in his prime.

"Even Mike Tyson didn't have the drawing power that Manny has," Roach said of his former fighter Iron Mike. "People just swarm [Pacquiao] to get a touch or a look. His countrymen love him.

"He brightens up a room and has got a great smile. He's the type of fighter that is going to keep boxing alive."

Roach said their game plan against Cotto is to stay away from underdog's devastating left hook and take away his counterpunching ability.

"We watched all the tapes of him [Cotto]," Roach said. "Cotto has never fought a guy like Manny Pacquiao and I don't think he can handle it.

"He is going to try to be a counterpuncher and not come at us."

Roach said he thinks that if Pacquiao can wear Cotto down then the Puerto Rican star might give up.

"I feel Miguel Cotto isn't deep enough and he can be hit," Roach said. "He took a beating in his fight with Antonio Margarito. He tried to quit in the ninth round holding his eye and he sucked it up came on and won the fight. We are not going to give him confidence in this fight.

"We are making adjustments for Cotto's style and his big left hook."

While Cotto is fighting at his natural weight (145 pounds), heavy favorite Pacquiao is moving up in class to meet the challenge.

Asked if Pacquiao could go even heavier for his next fight, Roach said, "I don't think so. At 147 pounds we have to feed him five times a day to keep the weight on."

Roach said the knockout to Margarito might have scarred the confidence of Cotto.

"After you get knocked out for the first time in your life you need time to build your confidence back," Roach said. "You are undefeated and then you get knocked out, it is going to affect you.

"We are just getting ready for Cotto and whatever he brings. If he wants to box us or fight us."

G-STARS

From Page 28

game of burly center Savalu Talalemoto. The Kagman High School cager Talalemoto scored 24 points, making a living in the paint.

The win moved Young 670 Rollers from last place to 10th spot in the team standings. The Celtics remained at the cellar joining Hi-5 as they have identical 0-6 records.

The third game between the Sonics and the Saints was the closest match played on Friday night with the former escaping with a 60-58 triumph.

The Sonics improved their record to 6-1 to keep the No, 2 spot, while the Saints dropped to an even 3-3 slate.

Tristan Ecalnea and Brian Ajoste provided the important baskets in the Sonics' two-point win. Ecalnea scored four of the Sonics' last seven points, while Ajoste made the other three.

Ajoste went on to finish with a team-high 14 points. Melvin Cadiang added 12.

Leo Galarse led the Saints' losing cause with his 20 markers, but he was held to only three points in the second half when the Luis Reyes-coached squad fell short in its bid to upset the Sonics.

First Game

G-Stars 63 – Rabauliman 14, De Vero 12, N. Mateo 8, Salas 8, Jung 5, Kenty 4, D. Mateo 4, A. Manalili 2, Lebria 2, Castro 2.

Hi-5 34 – Urbano 7, Reyes 7, G. Macahito 6, Caro 5, Tudela 4, F. Macahito 2, Manibusan 2, Atalig 2.

Scoring by halves: 44-24, 63-34.

Second Game

Young 670 57 – Talalemoto 24, Deleon Guerrero 7, Norita 6, Diaz 4, Baka 4, Cenir 3, Palacios 3, Teregeyo 3, Barry 2.

Celtics 43 – Webb 13, Sablan 12, T. Taguchi 11, Villagomez 4, Kautz 2, Nicolas 1.

Scoring by halves: 25-27, 57-43.

Third Game

Sonics 60 – Ajoste 14, Cadiang 12, Palacios 9, D.M. Jeon 7, Ecalnea 6, Norita 2, Salem 2, Sula 2.

Saints 58 – Galarse 20, Tudela 11, L. Reyes 6, Torres 6, Iglecias 5, Pangelinan 4, Namelo 2, D. Reyes 2.

Scoring by halves: 18-23, 60-58.

DOCOMO

From Page 28

son-high 33 points for Docomo and drew at least 19 points from three teammates. Kae Bernardo chipped in 23 markers, while Kevin Fitial and Jun Estolas added 19 apiece.

Bernardo and Teregeyo had eight points each in the first quarter, which ended with Docomo ahead by seven, 24-17.

Tinian began hitting its shots from beyond the arc in the second quarter, firing three triples. However, Teregeyo continued to burn the hoops in that canto, nailing 10 more points, and drew support from Fitial and Estolas to keep Docomo's distance at halftime, 49-35.

Docomo maintained the double-digit lead at the end of the third period, 71-61, despite Tinian's good shooting percentage from thee three-point area. Tinian buried four triples, but Estolas answered with two treys and scored 12 points to foil the visitors' rally.

In the payoff canto, Tinian cut the lead to as low as seven points, but clutch baskets from Teregeyo saved Docomo. Teregeyo had nine markers in the fourth canto, including Docomo's last three.

Ringo Reyes paced Tinian with 24 points, while Ton Borja contributed 21, making 15 of them from downtown.

The Docomo-Tinian tiff was a make-up game, as it was originally set for early last month. The remaining matches in the 12-team field will all be make-up games and only the Top 8 squads will advance to the playoffs.

In another make-up game, Customs snapped its three-game losing skid after outclassing Commonwealth Health Center, 70-64.

It was a come-from-behind for Custom and only its second in 10 games. Customs was behind most of the time in the first half, before Jason Lizama and company buckled down to work in the second half to escape with a six-point win.

CHC behind the strong start of Edgar Pangelinan and Sam Fernandez took a 10-point lead after the first period, 25-15. However, CHC was held to 10 points in the second period, allowing Customs to move within three at halftime, 32-35.

John Paul Sablan, who was limited to a field goal in the first half, scored eight in the third to lead Custom's recovery and give the team a 47-41 lead, entering the final canto.

Lizama picked up where Sablan left off in the fourth quarter, hitting two triples and tallying 12 points to complete Custom's come-from-behind win.

Lizama finished with 22 points, while Sablan had 17.

Pangelinan recorded 20 points for CHC, which dropped to a 3-6 slate.

First Game

Docomo 93 – Teregeyo 33, Bernardo 20, Fitial 19, Estolas 19.

Tinian 85 – R. Reyes 24, T. Borja 21, Pascua 17, Kaipat 12, J. Manglona 7, K. Borja 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-17, 49-35, 71-61, 93-85.

Second Game

Customs 70 – Ja. Lizama 22, J.P. Sablan 17, Ja. Sablan 11, R. Lizama 8, Santos 5, D. Reyes 4.

CHC 64 – Pangelinan 20, Fernandez 18, Lisua 14, Siedler 6, Diaz 1.

Scoring by quarters: 15-25, 32-35, 47-41, 70-64.

CATALUNA

From Page 28

that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the $35 to $40 price range for most tournaments.

Its 2008-2009 set of officers are led by president Mike Cruz, vice president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, treasurer Arnaldo Guban, and board of directors Fr. Manny Corcuera , Jhun Dela Cruz, Ted Malaran, Gil Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Rene Batalliones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

TSUNAMI

From Page 28

costumes and after the briefing, they plunged into the pool and learned swimming techniques and water safety tips from Tsunami Saipan swimmers and coaches.

Composing the pool of Tsunami Saipan swim lesson instructors were World Championship veteran Kai Staal and Shin Kimura, Kensuke Kimura, Thea Minor, Tammy Winkfield, Kaisei and Kosei Toda, Angel De Jesus, Angel Tan, Marystar Welch, Patty Staal, and Maryana Gramlich.

Tsunami Saipan and ARC will conduct four more sessions this month and Hiro Kimura is expecting more people to come in the second session. The next four sessions are scheduled for Nov. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Lessons in the five-session clinic are based on American Red Cross Water Safety Program and involve easy-to-remember safety tips for pools, spas, water parks, lakes, rivers, and oceans, and basic strokes in swimming.

This fall's session will be the seventh edition of Tsunami Saipan and American Red Cross-sponsored swim lesson. After the lesson, each participant will receive certification from ARC and according to Kimura, those who will excel may have a chance to join Tsunami Saipan's developmental team.

Registration for next session's swim lesson will begin at 9:30am, while every session will run from 10am to 11am.

Registration fee is $30 per swimmer. For families, second and succeeding members will only pay $25 registration fee. Certificates from ARC will be awarded only to those who will complete the five-session lesson.

To register or for more information, contact Yuko Kimura at 989-8425 or via e-mail at tsunamisaipan@yahoo.co.jp.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	3	0	1.000	–
Philadelphia	2	1	.667	1
Toronto	1	1	.500	1 1/2
New Jersey	0	3	.000	3
New York	0	3	.000	3

Southeast Division

Atlanta	2	0	1.000	–
Miami	2	0	1.000	–
Orlando	2	0	1.000	–
Washington	2	1	.667	1/2
Charlotte	1	2	.333	1 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	2	2	.500	–
Chicago	1	1	.500	–
Milwaukee	1	1	.000	–
Detroit	1	2	.333	1/2
Indiana	0	2	.000	1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	2	1	.667	–
San Antonio	2	1	.667	–
Dallas	2	1	.667	–
Memphis	1	1	.500	1/2
New Orleans	1	1	.500	1/2

Northwest Division

Denver	2	0	1.000	–
Oklahoma City	2	0	1.000	–
Minnesota	1	1	.500	1
Utah	1	1	.500	1
Portland	1	2	.333	1

Pacific Division

Phoenix	2	0	1.000	–
L.A. Lakers	1	1	.500	1
Golden State	0	2	.000	2
Sacramento	0	3	.000	2 1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	4	.000	3

Yesterday's Games

Washington 123, New Jersey 104
Cleveland 90, Charlotte 79
Philadelphia 141, New York 127
San Antonio 113, Sacramento 94
Houston 111, Portland 107
Milwaukee 96, Detroit 85
Dallas 93, LA Clippers 84

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	10	1
Hyatt	9	1
Docomo	7	3
Tinian	5	3
PSS	7	4
CPA	6	5
MBI	5	5
CHC	3	6
BOG	4	7
DCCA	4	7
Customs	2	8
ARFF	0	10

ROTARY STANDINGS

G-Stars	5	0
Sonics	6	1
Sixers	5	1
Sparks	4	2
Runnin' Rebels	4	3
670 Rollers 2	3	2
CK Saints	3	3
Rollers 1	3	3
Ol'Aces	2	4
Young 670 Rollers 3	1	5
Hi-5	0	6
Celtics	0	6

The Week in Sports

CNMI triathletes survive XTERRA World

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Survival was the theme of last week's sports actions with three CNMI triahletes beating the odds in XTERRA World, paddlers enduring the heat, a softball team besting two others in a regional qualifier, and a seasoned golfer stunning fellow veteran parbusters.

Mieko Carey competed in the 2009 XTERRA World Championships for the first time as a pro and endured the scorching heat in Makena, Maui, Hawaii, finishing the off-road race in record-breaking fashion.

Carey completed the 1.5-kilometer swim race, 32-kilometer mountain bike, and the 12-kilometer trail run in three hours, 35 minutes, and 44 seconds, passing her 2008 time of 3:53:38. She was 161st among the more than 500 participants, was 18th out of the 23 pros, and finished better than last year when she placed 235th out of the 482 finishers.

Mieko's husband, Kevin, was also in the grueling race and timed in at 4:23:11.

The third CNMI triathlete to survive the XTERRA World challenge was Tinian's Joshua Manglona, who lost a bike seat in the last few kilometers of the race, but still finished the event with a time of 4:54:38.

Also surviving tiring races were participants in the 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition. Sixteen teams competed in 500m, 1,500m, and 12-mile events in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and raced in a very hot weather.

In the end, two teams took the overall title, Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club (men's) and Guam's Poksai (women's), to earn six free round-trip tickets to Palau, which will host next year's Micro Cup.

In softball, after a series of qualifiers in the 2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament, three teams were left standing to battle for the Saipan leg title.

Unfortunately, only one team had to win and it was SaiPal, which pulled off an upset over event favorite Advance X-Terminators at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

An 11-10 victory in the finals gave SaiPal the right to represent the CNMI in the KOD and duel champion teams from Guam, Palau, and Pohnpei. Saipan will host the KOD Tournament of Champions this month.

Kulan Zamu was the third team to square of against SaiPal and Advance X-Terminators for the KOD ticket, but failed to advance to the finals after losing twice in the elimination round.

Natibu was also entered in the Saipag leg finals after a runner-up finish to X-Terminators in the second qualifier, but the former had a no-show in the finale.

More than forty golfers showed up at the Kingfisher Golf Links for the 2009 RGA Memorial Classic and a familiar name was mentioned as the big winner in the double-peoria tournament, RGA president Manny Mangarero.

The 12-handicapper Mangarero shot a 38 on the front and 42 on the back nine, giving him a net score of 68 and a one-stroke win over runner-up Jeff Taylor. Incidentally, Taylor also tallied the best low gross score of the day (3-under par 69), tying Adam Hardwicke. However, Hardwicke won in the tiebreak on the scorecard playoff on the par-4 No. 16, as Taylor only saved par on that hole against the former's birdie.

In basketball, Hyatt Regency Saipan booked two wins last week to move a victory away from clinching the pennant in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League.

Hyatt topped Customs, 95-68, and Bank of Guam, 105-79, to improve to a 9-1 record, a win behind the league-leading IT&E (10-1). Hyatt's last game will be against NTT Docomo and another win will give the former the league's pennant despite a possible tiebreak. Hyatt has an edge in case of a deadlock, as it defeated IT&E in their lone meeting in the regular season.

Also nailing back-to-back wins was Tan Holding's FC-1. Before Week 4 of the boys' U13 division of the 2009 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League was played, Tan Holdings FC-1 held a 0-2 record

Tan Holding's FC-1 was winless no more after a 3-1 upset over Paire and a 3-0 shutout victory against Independents FC.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Poksai (in blue uniform) and Animum Tasi Metgot paddlers in a neck-and-neck race in 12-mile event in the 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition held in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club paddlers approach the shore after completing the 12-mile race in the 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Manny Mangarero raises a check worth $500, which he won in the 2009 RGA Memorial Classic at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A SaiPal outfielder throws to first base during their title game against Advance X-Terminators in the Saipan leg of the 2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Mieko Carey, Joshua Manglona, Kevin Carey, and Janet King pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony for the 2009 World XTERRA Championship in Makena, Maui, Hawaii.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hyatt Regency Saipan's Ray Lizama, left, drives against Customs' Jake Maratita during their game in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United-Blue and Tan Holdings FC-2 players chase the ball during their game in Week 4 of the U13 division of the NMIFA youth league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Reversed HR call helps Yankees win Game 3

The first instant replay call in World Series history did more than turn a double into a home run. It changed the whole game for Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees. 25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

CNMI triathletes survive XTERRA World

Survival was the theme of last week's sports actions with three CNMI triahletes beating the odds in XTERRA World, paddlers enduring the heat, a softball team besting two others in a regional qualifier, and a seasoned golfer stunning fellow veteran parbusters. 27

G-Stars keep clean slate in Rotary caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League made up for its more than three weeks of absence, holding three games on Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Games in the 18-and-under caging were suspended due to the teams' failure to meet the league's requirements and when action resumed, the G-Stars still showed the same luster that helped them take the lead in the 12-team field.

The G-Stars routed Hi-5, 64-34, in the first game of the weekend's triple-threat, giving the Jose Tumaquip-coached squad their fifth win in as many games.

The G-Stars had the game as early as in the first half when they broke the match wide open with a 44-24 lead.

In the second half, Hi-5 still failed to keep up with the G-Stars' superior offensive power, as the former scored only 10 points in the second half. The loss was Hi-5's sixth in as many assignments.

Former CNMI National mainstay Marvin Rabauliman paced the G-Stars' fifth straight win, scoring 14 points. Christian De Vero added 12, while Nate Mateo and Rodney Salas chipped in eight apiece.

No Hi-5 player broke into double figures, as the best that Ariel Urbano could do was tallied seven points.

In the second game, Young 670 Rollers finally made it to the win column after five futile attempts.

Young 670 Rollers downed the Celtics, 57-43, behind the impressive inside

See G-STARS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Young 670 Rollers' John Cenir is seen here driving against two Kagman Sparks defenders during their game in the Rotary caging, which resumed on Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium after more than three weeks of break.

Cataluna, Pascual top Fil-Taga October Ace tournament at MCC

Freddie Cataluna and Larry Pascual were hailed Fil-Taga Golf Association aces of the month this October held a couple of weekends ago at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi.

Cataluna topped A division with his net 72 following a gross of 80 by the eight handicapper. Jhun Calma and Dan Ganacias came in tied at second with their identical 76 net.

The 13-handicap Calma fired an 89 gross, while Ganacias, who sports a 14 handicap, shot a gross of 90.

Other Fil-Taga members that took part in the A division were Leo Ganacias (net 78), Manny Po (78), Nestor Siruelo (79), Fr. Manny Corcuera (80), Joe Miranda (80), and Mando Guban (80).

Pascual, meanwhile, lorded it over in the B division with his net 74 built around a gross of 99 and a 25 handicap.

Richard Meimban actually carded the lowest net score in the category with his net 72 (97 gross and 25 handicap), but he already won the September ace and thus was not eligible to win the October ace.

Mike Cruz (net 76), Ted Malaran (77), Sandy Palon (79), Jason Gatdula (80), Adony Matutino (81), and Greg Gamboa (89) also saw action in the B division last month.

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system

See CATALUNA on Page 26

Tsunami Saipan-ARC swim clinic draws crowd

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The first part of the Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan and American Red Cross-led clinic had a good turnout with 58 individuals showing up at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

"We had a good crowd in the first session. Most of them our newcomers and we were glad to have them join our clinic," Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said.

Kimura added Tsunami Saipan and ARC were pleased with the turnout, as they had a good number despite other events scheduled on the same day of the clinic.

"There are other Halloween-related events on the island, but still a lot of people came here to attend our Happy Halloween-themed first lesson," Kimura added.

Participants event came in costumes before using their swimwear for the one-hour swim lesson. Basic information about the clinic was discussed while participants were still in their

See TSUNAMI on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marystar Welch teaches a young swimmer how to float during the first session of a swim clinic conducted by Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan and the American Red Cross on Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. Inset, participants and volunteers are in costumes during the Happy Halloween-themed clinic.

Docomo, Customs prevail in make-up games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

NTT Docomo continued to move up to the team standings in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League after slipping past Tinian, 93-85, on Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Docomo now has a 7-3 record, gaining the No. 3 spot in the team standings. After its loss to CPA-Accounting on Sept. 21, Docomo dropped to as low as sixth place. However, Docomo notched three straight wins, lifting the team to third place.

Tinian is still in the Top 5, as its 5-3 mark is good for the No. 4 spot. The visiting team faltered in its bid to get win No. 6 despite a hot shooting from downtown.

Tinian drilled nine triples, but failed to neutralize Syl Teregeyo and Docomo's other scorers. Teregeyo had a sea-

See DOCOMO on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Customs' Jason Sablan, center, is seen here hounded by Hyatt Regency Saipan's Yosh Gabaldon, left, and Ray Lizama during their game in the inter-government/business caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Customs lost, but recovered on Friday with a 70-64 win over Commonwealth Health Center.